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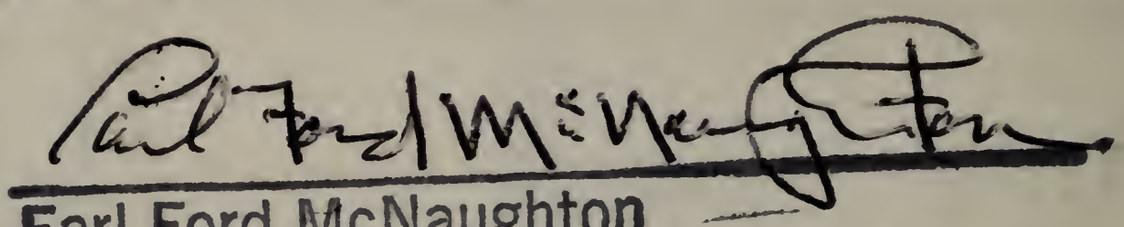
Great Difficulties and Dangers Encountered by Captains Lewis and Clarke; Discoveries of the Headwaters of the Columbia River Graphically told

By

PAUL ALLEN

THE SUPERIOR PRINTING COMPANY
AKRON, OHIO

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PREFACE

THE History of the Expedition of Captains Lewis and Clarke, during the years 1804, 1805, and 1806, by order of the Government of the United States, is the first narrative which diffused widely at that time a knowledge of the so-called Oregon Territory, and the intermediate country from the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains. It presents a description of a new and magnificent region, unvisited before by white men, with its barbarous tribes, their character and habits, and abounding in herds of buffalo, deer, and antelope, outnumbering the human tenants of the land. The Exposition held at Portland, Oregon, during the year of 1905, in commemoration of the great achievements attained by the Lewis and Clarke Expedition did surely lend a renewed interest to their Journal. The work being now nearly out of print, it seemed to the publishers a suitable time to put forth a new edition of the Journal of Lewis and Clarke, pruned of unimportant details, with a sketch of the progress of maritime discovery on the Pacific coast, and a summary account of earlier attempts to penetrate this vast western wilderness.

This Journal must ever retain a high degree of interest, as the account of the first voyage made by Indian or white man, in boats or canoes, stemming the current and rapids of the Missouri by the aid of sails, oars, pole and towline, from the point where its

waters discharge themselves into the Mississippi to its sources in the Rocky Mountains. They and their party were also the first white men who, after crossing the mountains, discovered the head-waters of the Columbia River, and where borne by its rapid current to the bay where its tumultuous waters meet the stormy tides of the Pacific.

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CHAPTER I.

The Party, after procuring Horses from the Shoshonees, proceed on their Journey through the Mountains.—Difficulties and Dangers of the Route.—Council held with another Band of the Shoshonees, of whom some Account is given.—They are reduced to the Necessity of killing their Horses for food.—Captain Clarke, with a small Party, precedes the main Body in quest of Provisions, and is hospitably received by the Pierced-Nose Indians.—Arrival of the main Body among this Tribe, with whom a Council is held.—They resolve to perform the Remainder of their Journey in Canoes.—Sickness among the Party.—They descend the Kooskooskee to its Junction with Lewis River, after passing several dangerous Rapids.—Brief Description of the Manners and Dress of the Pierced-Nose Indians.

"AUGUST 27. We were now occupied in determining on our route and in procuring horses from the Indians. The old guide who had been sent on by Captain Clarke now affirmed, through our interpreter, what he had already asserted of a road up Berry Creek, which would lead to Indian establishments on another branch of the Columbia: his reports were, however, contradicted by all the Shoshonees. This representation we ascribed to a wish on their part to keep us with them during the winter, as well for the protection we might afford them against their enemies, as for the purpose of consuming our merchandise among them: and as the old man promised to conduct us himself, the route indicated by him seemed to be the most eligible. We were able to procure some horses, though not enough for all our

purposes. This traffic, and our councils with the Indians, consumed the remainder of the day.

"August 28. The purchase of horses was resumed, and our stock raised to twenty-two. Having now crossed more than once the country which separates the head-waters of the Missouri from those of the Columbia, we can designate the easiest and most expeditious route for a portage. It is as follows:

"From the forks of the river, north 60 degrees west, five miles, to the point of a hill on the right; then south 80 degrees west, ten miles, to a spot where the creek is ten yards wide, and the highlands approach within two hundred yards; southwest five miles, to a narrow part of the bottom; then turning south 70 degrees west, two miles, to a creek on the right; thence south 80 degrees west, three miles, to a rocky point opposite to a thicket of pines on the left; thence west three miles, to the gap where is the fountain of the Missouri; on leaving this fountain, south 80 degrees west, six miles, across the dividing ridge to a run from the right, passing several small streams north 80 degrees west, four miles, over hilly ground to the east fork of Lewis's River, which is here forty yards wide.

"August 29. Captain Clarke joined us this morning, and we continued bargaining for horses. The late misfortunes of the Shoshonees have made the price higher than common, so that one horse cost us a pistol, one hundred balls, some powder, and a knife; another was purchased with a musket, and in this way we finally obtained twenty-nine. The animals are young and vigourous, but very poor, and most of them have sore backs, in consequence of the rough-

ness of the Shoshonee saddle. We are therefore afraid of burdening them too heavily, and are anxious to obtain one, at least, for each man, to carry the baggage or the man himself, or in the last resource to serve as food; but with all our exertions we are unable to provide all our men with horses. We have, however, been fortunate in obtaining for the last three days a sufficient supply of flesh, our hunters having killed two or three deer every day.

"August 30. The weather was fine, and having now made all our purchases, we loaded our horses and prepared to start. The greater part of the band, also, who had delayed their journey on our account, were ready to depart. We now took our leave of the Shoshonees, who set out on their visit to the Missouri at the same time that we, accompanied by the old guide, his four sons, and another Indian, began the descent of the river, along the same road which Captain Clarke had previously followed."

Before night they accomplished a distance of twelve miles. The following day they found the valleys and prairies in different places on fire, as a signal to collect the different bands of Shoshonees and Flatheads, preparatory to their migration to the Missouri. On reaching Tower Creek, they diverged from the former route taken by Captain Clarke, and followed for four miles the course of Berry Creek. On the 1st of September, quitting Berry Creek, they turned to the northwest, and, after travelling eighteen miles across a hilly country, they arrived at Fish Creek, a considerable stream flowing into the Columbia; and, after going up this creek four miles, they encamped. The next morning all the Indians left them except

the old guide. In continuing to ascend Fish Creek, at the distance of seven and a half miles they found it divided into two branches, and the road they had been following turning to the east, and leading, as their guide informed them, to the Missouri.

"We were therefore," proceeds the narrative, "left without any track; but, as no time was to be lost, we began to cut our road up the west branch of the creek. This we effected with much difficulty. The thickets of trees and brush through which we were obliged to cut our way required great labour: the road itself was over the steep and rocky sides of the hills, where the horses could not move without danger of slipping down, while their feet were bruised by the rocks and stumps of trees. Accustomed as these animals were to this kind of travelling, they suffered severely: several of them fell some distance down the sides of the hills, some turned over with the baggage, one was crippled, and two gave out, exhausted with fatigue. After crossing the creek several times, we at length made five miles with great fatigue and labour, and encamped on the left bank, in some stony, low ground." * * *

"September 3. The horses were very stiff and weary. We sent back two men for the load of the horse which had been crippled yesterday, and which we had been forced to leave two miles behind. On their return we set out at eight o'clock, and proceeded up the creek, making a passage through the brush and timber along its borders. The country generally is well supplied with pine, and in the low grounds is a great abundance of fir-trees and underbrush. The mountains are high and rugged, and those to

the east of us covered with snow. With all our precautions, the horses were very much injured in passing over the ridges and steep points of the hills, and, to add to the difficulty, at the distance of eleven miles the high mountains closed upon the creek, so that we were obliged to leave it to the right, and abruptly across the mountain. The ascent was here so steep that several of the horses slipped and hurt themselves; but at last we succeeded in getting across, and encamped on a small branch of Fish Creek. We had now made fourteen miles, in a direction nearly north from the river." * * * "At dusk it commenced snowing, and continued till the ground was covered to the depth of two inches, when it changed into a sleet. We here met with a serious misfortune, the last of our thermometers being broken by accident. After making a scanty supper on a little corn and a few pheasants killed in the course of the day, we laid down to sleep, and the next morning,

"September 4, found everything frozen, and the ground covered with snow. We were obliged to wait some time, in order to thaw the covers of the baggage, after which we began our journey at eight o'clock. We crossed a high mountain, which forms the dividing ridge between the waters of the creek we had been ascending, and those running to the north and west. We had not gone more than six miles over the snow, when we reached the head of a stream from the right, which directed its course more to the west; and, descending the steep sides of the hills along its border, at the distance of three miles found a small branch coming in from the east. We saw several of the argalia, but they were too shy to be killed, and we

therefore made our dinner from a deer shot by one of the hunters. Then we pursued the course of the stream for three miles, till it emptied itself into a river from the east. In the wide valley at their junction we discovered a large encampment of Indians; and on reaching them, and alighting from our horses, we were received with great cordiality. A council was immediately assembled, white robes were thrown over our shoulders, and the pipe of peace was introduced. After this ceremony, as it was too late to go any farther, we encamped, and continued smoking and conversing with the chiefs till a late hour. The next morning,

"September 5, we assembled the chiefs and warriors, and informed them who we were, and the purpose for which we had visited their country. All this was, however, conveyed to them through so many different languages, that it was not comprehended without difficulty. We therefore proceeded to the more intelligible language of presents, and made four chiefs by giving a medal and a small quantity of tobacco to each. We received in turn from the principal chief a present consisting of the skins of a *blaireau* (badger), an otter, and two antelopes, and were treated by the women to some dried roots and berries. We then began to traffic for horses, and succeeded in exchanging seven and purchasing eleven, for which we gave a few articles of merchandise.

"This encampment consists of thirty-three tents, in which were about four hundred souls, among whom eighty were men. They are called Ootlashoots, and represent themselves as one band of a nation called Tushepaws, a numerous people of four hundred and

fifty tents, residing on the head-waters of the Missouri and Columbia Rivers, and some of them lower down the latter river. In person these Indians are stout, and their complexion lighter than that common among Indians. The hair of the men is worn in queues of otter skin, falling in front over the shoulders. A shirt of dressed skin covers the body to the knee, and over this is worn occasionally a robe. To these are added leggins and moccasins. The women suffer their hair to fall in disorder over the face and shoulders, and their chief article of covering is a long shirt of skin, reaching down to the ankles, and tied round the waist. In other respects, as also in the few ornaments which they possess, their appearance is similar to that of the Shoshonees: there is, however, a difference between the languages of these two people, which is still farther increased by the very extraordinary pronunciation of the Ootlashoots. Their words have all a remarkably guttural sound, and there is nothing which seems to represent the tone of their speaking more exactly than the clucking of a fowl or the noise of a parrot. This peculiarity renders their voices scarcely audible, except at a short distance; and, when many of them are talking, forms a strange confusion of sounds. The common conversation that we overheard consisted of low, gutteral sounds, occasionally broken by a low word or two, after which it would relapse, and could scarcely be distinguished. They seemed kind and friendly, and willingly shared with us their berries and roots, which formed their sole stock of provisions. Their only wealth is their horses, which are very fine, and so numerous that this party had with them at least five hundred.

"September 6. We spent the morning with the Ootlashoots, from whom we purchased two more horses, and obtained a vocabulary of their language. They set off about two o'clock to join the different bands who were collecting at the Three Forks of the Missouri, and we ourselves proceeded at the same time. Taking a direction north 30° west, we crossed, within the distance of a mile and a half, a small river from the right, and a creek coming in from the north. The river is the main stream, and when it reaches the end of the valley where the mountains close in upon it, it is joined by the stream on which we encamped last evening, as well as by the creek just mentioned. To the river thus formed we gave the name of Clarke, he being the first white man who had ever visited its waters. At the end of five miles on this course we crossed the valley, and reached the top of a mountain covered with pine: this we descended along the steep sides and ravines for a mile and a half, when we came to a spot on the river where the Ootlashoots had encamped a few days before. We then followed the course of the stream, which is from twenty-five to thirty yards wide, shallow and stony, and the low grounds on its borders narrow. Within the distance of three and a half miles we crossed it several times; and, after passing a run on each side, encamped on its right bank, having made ten miles during the afternoon. The horses were turned out to graze; but those we had lately bought were secured and watched, lest they should escape, or be stolen by their former owners. Our stock of flour was now exhausted, and we had but little corn; and, as our hunters had killed nothing except

two pheasants, our supper consisted chiefly of berries."

The two following days they continued to follow the course of the river, being fortunate in procuring game, and encountering no particular difficulty. They were not a little annoyed, however, by the prickly pear, which, says the journalist, "grows here in clusters, is of an oval form, about the size of a pigeon's egg, and its thorns are so strong and bearded, that, when it penetrates our feet, it brings away the pear itself." Several horses were seen, which appeared to be in a wild state. They passed a small stream falling into the river, to which, from its having several channels, they gave the name of Scattering Creek.

"September 9. We resumed our journey," continues the narrative, "through the valley, and, leaving the road on our right, crossed Scattering Creek, and halted, at the distance of twelve miles, on a small run from the east, where we breakfasted on the remains of yesterday's hunt. We here took a meridian altitude, which gave the latititude of 46° 41′ 38″; after which we proceeded on, and at the distance of four miles passed over to the left bank of the river, where we found a large road through the valley. At this place is a handsome stream of very clear water, a hundred yards wide, with low banks, and a bed formed entirely of gravel: it has every appearance of being navigable; but, as it contains no salmon, we presume there must be some fall below which obstructs their passage. Our guide could not inform us where this river discharged its waters. He said that, as far as he knew its course, it ran along the mountains to the north, and that not far from our

present position it was joined by another stream nearly as large as itself, rising in the mountains to the east, near the Missouri, and flowing through an extensive valley or open prairie. Through this prairie was the great Indian road to the waters of the Missouri; and so direct was the route, that in four days' journey from this place we might reach the Missouri about thirty miles above what we called the Gates of the Rocky Mountains, or the spot where the valley of that river widens into an extensive plain on entering the chain of mountains. At ten miles from our camp was a small creek falling in from the eastward; five miles below which we halted, on a large stream, which empties itself on the west side of the river. It is a fine, bold stream of clear water, about twenty yards wide, and we called it Traveller's rest Creek; for, as our guide told us that we should here leave the river, we determined to stop for the purpose of taking celestial observations and collecting some food, as the country through which we were to pass had no game for a great distance." * * *.

"September 10. The morning being fair, all the hunters were sent out, and the rest of the party employed in repairing their clothes: two of them were despatched to the junction of the river from the east, along which the Indians go to the Missouri. and which is about seven miles below Traveller's-rest Creek." * * *

"Towards evening one of the hunters returned with three Indians, whom he had met in his excursion up Traveller's-rest Creek. As soon as they saw him they prepared to attack him with arrows; but he pacified them by laying down his gun, and, advancing towards them, soon persuaded them to come to the

camp. Our Shoshonee guide could not speak the language of these people; but, by the universal language of signs and gesticulations, which is perfectly intelligible among the Indians, he found that they were three Tushepaw Flatheads, in pursuit of two men supposed to be Shoshonees, who had stolen twenty-three of their horses. We gave them some boiled venison and a few presents, such as a fish-hook, a steel to strike fire, and a little powder; but they seemed best pleased with a piece of riband which we tied in the hair of each of them. They were in such haste, however, lest their horses should be carried off, that two of them set off after sunset in quest of the robbers; but the third was persuaded to remain with us, and to conduct us to his relations. These, he said, were numerous, and resided on the Columbia, in the plain below the mountains. From that place, he added, the river was navigible to the ocean, that some of his kinsmen had been there last fall, and seen an old white man, who resided there by himself, and who gave them some handkerchiefs like those we have. The distance from this place was five sleeps, or days' journeys. When our hunters had all joined us, we found our provisions consisted of four deer, a beaver, and three grouse. The observation of to-day gave 46° 48′ 28″ as the latitude of Traveller's-rest Creek."

They were detained the whole of the next morning to recover some of their horses which had strayed away, so that they advanced but seven miles during the remainder of the day. The Indian became impatient to return home, and left them.

"September 12. We proceeded," continues the

Journal," at seven o'clock, and soon passed a stream falling in on the right, near which was an old Indian camp, with a bath or sweating-house covered with earth. At two miles' distance we ascended a high bank, and thence passed through a hilly and thickly-timbered country for nine miles, when we came to the forks of the creek, where the road branches up each fork. We followed the western route; and, finding that the creek made a considerable bend at the distance of four miles, crossed a high mountain in order to avoid the circuit. The road had been very bad during the first part of the day; but the passage over the mountain, which was eight miles across, was exceedingly trying to the horses, as we were obliged to go over steep, stony sides of hills, and along hollows and ravines, rendered still more troublesome by the fallen timber, chiefly pine, spruce-pine, and fir. We at length reached the creek, having made twenty-three miles on a route so difficult that some of the party did not join us before ten o'clock. We found the accounts of scantiness of game but too true, as we were not able to procure any during the whole of yesterday, and to-day we killed only a single pheasant. Along the road we observed many of the pine-trees peeled off, which is done by the Indians to procure the inner bark for food in the spring.

"September 13. Two of the horses strayed away during the night, and one of them being Captain Lewis's, he remained with four men to seek for them, while we proceeded up the creek. At the distance of two miles we came to several springs, issuing from large rocks of a coarse, hard grit, and nearly boiling hot. They seem to be much frequented, as there

are several paths made by elk, deer, and other animals, and near one of them there is a hole or Indian bath, besides roads leading in different directions. These embarrassed our guide, who, making a mistake, took us three miles out of the proper course, over an exceedingly bad route. We then fell into the right road, and proceeded on very well, when, having made five miles, we stopped to refresh the horses. Captain Lewis here joined us; but, not having been able to find his horse, two men were sent back to continue the search."

They advanced till the evening, and encamped on a stream to which they gave the name of Glade Creek.

Starting early the next morning, they advanced along the right bank of Glade Creek, and at the distance of six miles found it joined by another of equal size, coming from the right. "Here," says the Journal, "we passed over to the left side of the creek, and began the ascent of a very high and steep mountain, nine miles across. On reaching the other side, we found a large branch from the left, which seems to rise in the Snowy Mountains to the south and southeast." * * * "The mountains we crossed to-day were much more difficult than those of yesterday: the last was particularly fatiguing, being steep and stony, broken by fallen timber, and thickly overgrown by pine, spruce, fir, hacmatack, and tamarac. Although we had made only seventeen miles, we were all very weary. Our whole stock of animal food was now exhausted, and we therefore killed a colt, on which we made a hearty supper. From this incident we called the last creek we had passed from the south Colt-killed Creek. The river itself is eighty yards wide, with a

swift current and a stony channel. Its Indian name is Kooskooskee.

"September 15. At an early hour we proceeded along the right side of the Kooskooskee, over steep, rocky points of land, till at the distance of four miles we reached an old Indian fishing-place. The road here turned to the right of the river, and began to ascend a mountain; but the wind and the fire had prostrated or scorched almost all the timber on the south side, and the ascents were so steep that we were forced to wind in every direction round the high knobs, which constantly impeded our progress. Several of the horses lost their foothold and slipped: one of them, which was loaded with a desk and small trunk, rolled over and over for forty yards, till his fall was stopped by a tree. The desk was broken, but the poor animal escaped without much injury. After clambering in this way for four miles, we came to a high, snowy part of the mountain, where was a spring of water, at which we halted two hours to refresh our horses.

"On leaving the spring the road continued as bad as it was below, and the timber more abundant. At four miles we reached the top of the mountain, and, foreseeing no chance of meeting with water, we encamped on the northern side, near an old bank of snow three feet deep. Some of this we melted, and supped on the remains of the colt killed yesterday. Our only game to-day was two pheasants; and the horses, on which we calculated as a last resource, began to fail us, for two of them were so poor and worn out with fatigue that we were obliged to leave them behind. All around us were high, rugged mountains,

among which was a lofty range from southeast, to northwest, whose tops were without timber, and in some places covered with snow. The night was cloudy and very cold, and three hours before daybreak,

"September 16, it began to snow, and continued all day, so that by evening it was six or eight inches deep. This covered the track so completely that we were obliged constantly to halt and examine, lest we should lose our way. In many places we had nothing to guide us except the branches of the trees, which, being low, have been rubbed by the burdens of the Indian horses. The road was, like that of yesterday, along steep hillsides obstructed with fallen timber, and having a growth of eight different species of pine, standing so thick that the snow fell from them as we passed, and kept us continually wet to the skin, and so cold that we were anxous lest our feet should be frozen, as we had only thin moccasins to defend them.

"At noon we halted to let the horses feed on some long grass on the north side of the mountain, and endeavoured, by making fires, to keep ourselves warm. As soon as the horses were refreshed, Captain Clarke went ahead with one man, and at the distance of six miles reached a stream from the right, and prepared fires by the time of our arrival at dusk." * * * "We were all very wet, cold, and hungry: although before setting out this morning we had seen four deer, we could not procure any of them, and were obliged to kill a second colt for our supper."

The two following days they encountered similar difficulties from the ruggedness of the country and the absence of game, so that they were obliged to kill

another colt for their subsistence. On the evening of the 18th they encamped, after a fatiguing day's journey of eighteen miles. "We now," continues the Journal," melted some snow, and supped on a little portable soup, a few canisters of which, with about twenty pounds of bears' oil, are our only remaining means of subsistence. Our guns are scarcely of any service, for there is no living creature in these mountains, except a few small pheasants, a small species of gray squirrel, and a blue bird of the vulture kind, about the size of a turtle-dove or jay, and even these are difficult to shoot."

Captain Clarke, meanwhile, had proceeded in advance of the party, with six hunters, for the purpose of procuring game. In this, however, they were wholly unsucessful; and, without anything to eat, they encamped in the evening on the banks of a stream, to which they gave the appropriate name of Hungry Creek.

"September 19. Captain Clarke proceeded up the creek, along which the road was more steep and stony than any he had yet passed. At six miles' distance he reached a small plain, in which he fortunately found a horse, on which he breakfasted, and hung the rest on a tree for the party in the rear. Two miles beyond this he left the creek and crossed three high mountains, rendered almost impassable from the steepness of the ascent and the quantity of fallen timber. After clambering over these ridges and mountains, and passing some branches of Hungry Creek, he came to a large creek, running westward. This he followed for four miles, then turned to the right down the mountain, till he came to a small creek to the left. Here

he halted, having made twenty-two miles on his course, south 80 degrees west, though the winding route over the mountains almost doubled the distance. On descending the last mountain, the heat became much more sensible, after the extreme cold he had experienced for several days past."

The main party advanced eighteen miles over mountains and along narrow, dangerous paths, and encamped for the night on a branch of Hungry Creek. They killed no game, and their only refreshment during the day was a little portable soup. From fatigue and want of food they were becoming much enfeebled, and dysentery began to prevail.

"September 20. Captain Clarke went on through a country as rugged as before, till, on passing a low mountain, at the distance of four miles he came to the forks of a large creek. Down this he proceeded on a course south 60 degrees west for two miles, then turning to the right, continued over a dividing ridge, where were the heads of several little streams, and at twelve miles, distance descended the last of the Rocky Mountains, and reached the level country. A beautiful open plain, partially supplied with pine, now presented itself. After proceeding five miles, he discovered three Indian boys, who on observing the party, ran off and hid themselves in the grass. Captain Clarke immediately alighted, and, giving his horse and gun to one of the men, went after the boys. He soon relieved their apprehensions, and sent them forward to the village, about a mile off, with presents of small pieces of riband. Soon after they reached home a man came out to meet the party, but with great caution: he conducted them to a large tent in the village, and all

the inhabitants gathered round to view with a mixture of fear and pleasure the wonderful strangers. The conductor now informed Captain Clarke, by signs, that the spacious tent he was in was the residence of the great chief, who had set out three days ago, with all the warriors, to attack some of their enemies toward the southwest; that he would not return before fifteen or eighteen days, and that in the mean time there were only a few men left to guard the women and children. They now set before them a small piece of buffalo meat, some dried salmon, berries, and several kinds of roots. Among these last was one which was round, much like an onion in appearance, and sweet to the taste; its name is *quamash,* and it is eaten either in its natural state, boiled into a kind of soup, or made into a cake, when it is called *pashcco.* After their long abstinence this was a sumptuous treat. They returned the kindness of the people by a few small presents, and then went on, in company with one of the chiefs, to a second village in the same plain, at the distance of two miles. Here they were treated with great kindness, and passed the night. The hunters were sent out, but, though they saw some tracks of deer, were unable to procure anything.

Captain Lewis, with the main party, had proceeded about two miles, when they fortunately found the remainder of the horse left by Captain Clarke and also a note signifying his intention to descend into the plains to the southwest in search of provisions. One of their horses, with a valuable load, was missing, and two men were sent to find him. Their general course was south 25° west, through a dense forest of

large pine, and they advanced fifteen miles before encamping.

"On descending the heights of the mountains," continues the Journal, "the soil becomes gradually more fertile, and the land through which we passed this evening is of an excellent quality. It has a dark-gray soil, though very broken, and with large masses of gray freestone above the ground in many places. Among the vegetable productions we distinguish the alder, honeysuckle, and whortleberry, common in the United States; also a species of honeysuckle known only west of the Rocky Mountains, which rises to the height of about four feet, and bears a white berry. There is likewise a plant resembling the chokecherry, which grows in thick clumps eight or ten feet high, and bears a black berry with a single stone, of a sweetish taste. The *arbor vitæ,* too, is very common, and grows to a great size, being from two to six feet in diameter.

"September 21. The free use of food, to which he had for some time not been accustomed, made Captain Clarke very sick. He therefore sent out all the hunters, and remained himself at the village, as well on account of his illness as for the purpose of avoiding suspicion, and collecting information from the Indians as to the route.

"The two villages consisted of about thirty double tents, and the inhabitants called themselves Chopunnish, or Pierced-Nose. The chief drew a chart of the river, and explained that a greater chief than himself, who governed these villages, and whose name was Twisted-Hair, was now fishing at the distance of half a day's ride down the river. His chart made the Koos-

kooskee fork a little below his camp, with a second fork farther on, and a large branch flowing in on each side below which the river passed the mountains: here was a great fall of water, near which lived white people, from whom were procured the white beads and brass ornaments worn by the women.

"A chief of another band made a visit this morning, and smoked with Captain Clarke. The hunters returning without having been able to kill anything Captain Clarke purchased as much dried salmon, roots and berries as he could with the few articles he chanced to have in his pockets, and having sent them by one of the men and a hired Indian back to Captain Lewis, he went on towards the camp of Twisted Hair. It was four o'clock before he set out, and the night soon came on; but, meeting an Indian coming from the river, they engaged him, with the present of a neck-cloth, to guide them to that chief. They proceeded twelve miles through the plain before they reached the river hills, which are very high and steep. The whole valley, from these hills to the Rocky Mountains, is a beautiful level country, with a rich soil, covered with grass: there is, however, but little timber, and the country is badly watered. The plain is so much lower than the surrounding hills, or so much sheltered by them, that the weather was quite warm, while the cold of the mountains was extreme. From the top of the river hills they proceeded down for three miles, till they reached the water side between eleven and twleve o'clock at night. Here they found a small camp of five squaws and three children, the chief himself being encamped, with two others, on a small island in the river. The guide called to him, and he soon came over:

Captain Clarke gave him a medal, and they smoked together till one o'clock."

The main party proceeded on without anything worthy of note occurring. During the day they were so fortunate as to kill a few pheasants and a prairie wolf.

"September 22. Captain Clarke passed over to the island in company with Twisted Hair, who seemed to be cheerful and sincere in his conduct. The river at this place was about one hundred and sixty yards wide, but interrupted by shoals, and the low grounds on its borders were narrow. The hunters brought in three deer; after which Captain Clarke left his party, and, accompanied by Twisted Hair and his son, rode back to the village, where he arrived about sunset: they then walked up together to the second village, where we had just arrived.

"We had intended to set out early; but one of the men having neglected to hobble his horse, he strayed away, and we were obliged to wait till nearly twelve o'clock. We then proceeded on a western course for two and a half miles, when we met the hunters sent by Captain Clarke from the village, seven and a half miles distant, with provisions. This supply was most seasonable, as we had tasted nothing since last night; and the fish, roots, and berries, in addition to a crow which we killed on the route, completely satisfied our hunger. After this refreshment we proceeded in much better spirits, and at a few miles were overtaken by the two men who had been sent back after the lost horse on the 20th." * * *

"As we approached the village, most of the women, though apprized of our being expected, fled with their

children into the neighbouring woods. The men however, received us without any apprehension, and gave us a plentiful supply of provisions. The plains were now crowded with Indians, who had come to see the persons of the whites, and the strange things they had brought with them; but, as our guide was a perfect stranger to their language, we could converse by signs only. Our inquiries were chiefly directed to the character of the country, the courses of the rivers, and the Indian villages, in regard to all which we received more or less information; and, as their accounts varied but little from each other, we were induced to place confidence in them. Twisted Hair drew a chart of the river on a white elkskin; according to which, the Kooskooskee Forks were a few miles from this place: two day's journey towards the south was another and larger fork, on which the Shoshonee or Snake Indians fished; five days journey lower down was a large river from the northwest, into which Clarke's River empties itself; and from the mouth of that river to the falls was five days' journey farther. On all the forks, as well as on the main river, great numbers of Indians resided, and at the falls were establishments of whites. This was the story of Twisted Hair.

"September 23. The chiefs and warriors were all assembled this morning, and we explained to them from whence we came, the objects of our visiting them, and our pacific intentions towards all the Indians. This, being conveyed by signs, might not have been perfectly comprehended, but appeared to give entire satisfaction. We now gave a medal to two of the chiefs, a shirt to Twisted Hair, in addition to the medal he had already received, and a flag and handkerchief

for the grand chief on his return. To these were added a knife, a handkerchief, and a small piece of tobacco for each chief. The Indians did not give us any provisions gratuitously. We therefore purchased a quantity of fish, berries (chiefly red haws), and roots, and in the afternoon went on to the second village. Twisted Hair here introduced us into his own tent (which consisted, however, of nothing more than pine-bushes and bark), and gave us some dried salmon boiled. We continued our purchases, and obtained as much provision as our horses could carry in their present weak condition, as far as the river. The men exchanged a few old canisters for dressed elkskins, of which they made shirts. Great crowds of the natives were around us all night, but we did not miss anything except a knife, and a few other articles stolen from a shotpouch the day before.

"September 24. We sent back Colter in search of the horses lost in the mountains; and, having collected the rest, set out at ten o'clock along the same route already passed by Captain Clarke towards the river. All around the village the women were busily employed in gathering and dressing the *pasheco* root, of which large quantities were heaped up in piles over the plain. We now felt severely the consequences of eating heartily after our late privations: Captain Lewis and two of the men were taken very ill last evening, and to-day he could scarcely sit on his horse, while others were obliged to be put on their horses, and some, from extreme weakness and pain, were forced to lie down by the side of the road for a considerable time. At sunset we reached the island where the hunters had been left on the 22d. They had been unsuccessful, having

killed only two deer since that time, and two of them were very ill. A little below this island was a larger one, on which we encamped, and administered Rush's pills to the sick.

"September 25. The weather was very hot and oppressive to the party, most of whom were now complaining of sickness. Our situation, indeed, rendered it necessary to husband our remaining strength, and it was determined to proceed down the river in canoes: Captain Clarke therefore set out with Twisted Hair and two young men in quest of timber for their construction. As he went down the river, at the distance of a mile he crossed a creek from the right, which, from the rocks that obstructed its passage, he called Rockdam River. The hills along the river were high and steep, the low grounds narrow, and the navigation was embarrassed by two rapids. At the distance of two miles farther he reached two nearly equal forks of the stream, one of which flowed in from the north. At this place he rested for an hour, and cooked a few salmon which one of the Indians had struck with a gig. Here, too, he was joined by some Indians in two canoes from below. These canoes were long, steady, and loaded with the furniture and provisions of two families. He now crossed the south fork, and returned to the camp on the south side, the greater part of the way through a narrow pine bottom, in which was found much fine timber suitable for canoes, One of the Indian boats, with two men, set out at the same time; and such was their dexterity in managing the pole, that they reached camp within fifteen minutes after him, although they had to drag the canoe over three rapids. He found Captain Lewis and several of the men still

very sick, and distributed to such as were in need of it salt and tartar emetic.

"September 26. Having resolved to go down to some spot calculated for building canoes we set out early this morning, proceeded five miles, and encamped on a piece of low ground opposite the forks of the river; but so weak were the men, that several were taken sick in coming down, the weather being oppressively hot. Two chiefs, with their families, followed us, and encamped with a great number of horses, near us; and soon after our arrival we were joined by two Indians, who had come down the north fork on a raft. We purchased some fresh salmon; and, having distributed the axes, and portioned off the labour of the party,

"September 27, at an early hour began our preparations for constructing five canoes. But few of the men, however, were able to work, and of these several were soon taken ill, as the day proved very hot. The hunters, too, returned without any game, and seriously indisposed, so that nearly the whole party were now sick. We procured some fresh salmon; and Colter, who at this time returned with one of the horses, brought half a deer, which was very nourishing to the invalids. Several Indians from a camp below came up to see us."

From this time to the 5th of October, all the men capable of labour were employed in preparing the canoes. The health of the party gradually recruited, though they still suffered severely from want of food; and, as the hunters had but little success in procuring game, they were obliged on the 2d to kill one of their horses. Indians from different quarters frequently vis-

ited them, but all that could be obtained from them was a little fish and some dried roots.

"October 5. The canoes being nearly finished," says the Journal, "it became necessary to dispose of our horses. They were therefore collected, to the number of thirty-eight, and, after being branded and marked, were delivered to three Indians, the two brothers and the son of a chief who had promised to accompany us down the river. To each of these men we gave a knife and some small articles and they agreed to take care of the horses till our return. The hunters, with all their diligence, were unable to kill anything; the hills being high and rugged, and the woods too dry to hunt deer, which was the only game in the country. We therefore continued to eat dried fish and roots, which were purchased of the squaws with small presents, but chiefly white beads, of which they are extravagantly fond. Some of these roots seemed to possess very active properties; for after supping on them this evening, we were swelled to such a degree as to be scarcely able to breathe for several hours. Towards night we launched two canoes, which proved to be very good.

"October 6. The morning was cool, and the wind easterly. The general course of the winds seems to be nearly the same as we observed on the east side of the mountains. While on the head-waters of the Missouri, we had every morning a cool wind from the west. At this place a cool breeze springs up during the latter part of the night, or near daybreak, and continues till seven or eight o'clock, when it subsides, and the other part of the day is warm. Captain Lewis was now not so well as he had been, and Captain Clarke was also

taken ill. We had all our saddles buried in a *cache* near the river, about half a mile below, and deposited at the same time a canister of powder and a bag of balls. The time which could be spared from our labours on the canoes was devoted to some astronomical observations. The latitude of our camp, as deduced from the mean of two observations, was found to be 46° 34′ 56.3″ north.

"October 7. This morning all the canoes were put in the water and loaded, the oars fixed, and every preparation made for setting out; but when we were all ready, the two chiefs who had promised to accompany us were not to be found, and at the same time we missed a pipe tomahawk: we therefore proceeded without them. Below the forks the river is called the Kooskooskee, and is a clear, rapid stream, with a number of shoals and difficult places. For some miles the hills were steep, and the low grounds narrow; but then succeeded an open country, with a few trees scattered along the river. At the distance of nine miles was a small creek on the left. We passed in the course of the day ten rapids; in descending one of which, one of the canoes struck a rock and sprung a leak. We, however continued for nineteen miles, and encamped on the left side of the river, opposite to the mouth of a small run. Here the canoe was unloaded and repaired, and two lead canisters of powder were deposited. Several camps of Indians were on the sides of the river, but we had little intercourse with any of them.

October 8. We set out at nine o'clock. At eight and a half miles we passed an island, and four and a half miles lower a second, opposite a small creek on the left side of the river. Five miles farther was

another island on the left; and a mile and a half beyond, a fourth. At a short distance from this was a large creek coming from the right, to which we gave the name of Colter's Creek, from Colter, one of our men. We had proceeded from this creek about a mile and a half, and were passing the last of fifteen rapids, having gone over the other fourteen safely, when one of the canoes struck, and, a hole being made in her side, she immediately filled. The men, several of whom could not swim, clung to her till one of the other boats could be unloaded, and with the assistance of an Indian canoe they were all brought to shore. All the goods were so much wet that we were obliged to halt for the night, and spread them out to dry. While all this was doing it was necessary to place two sentinels over the merchandise, for we have found that these Indians, though kind and disposed to give us every aid during our distress, cannot resist the temptation of pilfering small articles. We passed, during our route of twenty miles, several encampments of Indians on the islands and near the rapids, which places are chosen as most convenient for taking salmon. At one of these camps we found the two chiefs who had left us after promising to descend the river with us: they, however, willingly came on board after we had gone through the ceremony of smoking.

"October 9. The morning, as usual, was cool; but, as the weather was cloudy, our merchandise dried but slowly. The boat, though much injured, was repaired by ten o'clock so as to be perfectly fit for service: still we were obliged to remain through the day, for the articles to be sufficiently dry to be re-

loaded. The time we employed in purchasing fish for the voyage and in conversing with the Indians. In the afternoon we were surprised at hearing that our old Shoshonee guide and his son had left us, and been seen running up the river several miles above. As he had never given any notice of his intention, nor even received his pay for conducting us, we could not imagine the cause of his desertion, nor did he ever come back to explain his conduct. We requested the chief to send a horseman after him, to ask him to return and receive what we owed him. From this, however, he dissuaded us; saying very frankly, that his nation, the Chopunnish, would take from the old man any presents he might have on passing their camp.

"The Indians came about our encampment at night, and were very gay and good-humoured with the men. Among other exhibitions was that of a squaw, who appeared to be crazy: she sang in a wild, incoherent manner, and would offer to the spectators, all the little articles she possessed, scarifying herself in a horrid manner if any one refused her presents. She seemed to be an object of pity among the Indians, who suffered her to do as she pleased, without any interruption.

"October 10. A fine morning. We loaded the canoes and set off at seven o'clock. At the distance of two and a half miles we had passed three islands, the last of which was opposite to a small stream on the right. Within the next three and a half miles was another island, and a creek on the left, with wide low grounds, containing willow and cottonwood trees, and on which were three tents of Indians. Two miles lower was the head of a large island, and six and a

half miles beyond it we halted at an encampment of eight lodges on the left, in order to examine a rapid before us. We had already passed eight, some of them difficult; but this was worse than any of those, being strewed with rocks, and very hazardous: we purchased here some roots, and dined with the Indians. Among them was a man from the falls, who says that he has seen white people at that place, and is very desirous of going down with us: an offer, however, which we declined. Just above this camp we had passed a tent, near which was an Indian bathing himself in a small pond or hole of water, warmed by throwing in hot stones. After finishing our meal, we descended the rapid with no injury except to one of our boats, which ran against a rock, but in the course of an hour was got off with only a small split in her side. This rapid, from its appearance and difficulty, we named Rugged Rapid. We went on over five others of a less dangerous character, and at the distance of five miles reached a large fork of the river from the south; and, after having gone twenty miles, halted below the junction on the right bank. Our arrival soon attracted the attention of the Indians, who flocked in all directions to see us. In the evening, the Indian from the falls, whom we had seen at Rugged Rapid, joined us with his son, in a small canoe, and insisted on accompanying us to the falls. Being again reduced to fish and roots, we made an experiment to vary our food by purchasing a few dogs, and after having been accustomed to horse-flesh, felt no disrelish to this new dish. The Chopunnish have great numbers of dogs, which they employ for domestic purposes, but never eat them; and our using the

flesh of that animal soon brought us into ridicule as dog-eaters.

"The country at the junction of the two rivers is an open plain on all sides, broken towards the left by a distant ridge of high land, thinly covered with timber. This is the only body of timber which the country contains, for at the forks there is not a tree to be seen; and in almost the whole descent of sixty miles down the Kooskooskee from its forks, there are very few. This southern branch is, in fact, the main stream of Lewis's River, on which we encamped when among the Shoshonees. The Indians inform us that it is navigable for sixty miles; that not far from its mouth it receives a branch from the south; and a second and larger branch two days' march up, nearly parallel to the first Chopunnish villages we met near the mountains. This branch is called Pawnashte, and is the residence of a chief who, according to their expression, has more horses than he can count. The river has many rapids, near which are numerous fishing camps, there being ten establishments of this kind before reaching the first southern branch: one on that stream, five between that and the Pawnashte, one on that river, and two above it; besides which, there are many other Indian settlements on the more distant waters of the river. All these Indians belong to the Chopunnish nation, and live in tents of an oblong form, covered with flat roofs.

"At its mouth Lewis's River is about two hundred and fifty yards wide, and its water is of a greenish-blue colour. The Kooskooskee, whose waters are clear as crystal, is one hundred and fifty yards in width, and after the union the breadth is increased

to three hundred yards: at the point of union is an Indian cabin, and in Lewis's River a small island.

"The men of the Chopunnish, or Pierced-Nose nation, residing on the Kooskoskee and Lewis Rivers, are in person stout, portly, and well-looking; the women are small, with good features, and are generally handsome, though the complexion of both sexes is darker than that of the Tushepaws. In dress they resemble that nation, being fond of displaying their ornaments. Buffalo or elk skin robes, decorated with beads, sea-shells, chiefly mother-of-pearl, attached to an otter-skin collar, falling in front in two queues; feathers, paints of different kinds, principally white, green, and light blue, all of which they find in their own country—these are the chief ornaments they use. In the winter they wear a short shirt of dressed skins, long painted leggins and moccasins, and a plait of twisted grass round the neck.

"The dress of the women is more simple, consisting of a long shirt of argalia or ibex skin, reaching down to the ankles, and without any girdle: to the bottom of it are tied little pieces of brass, shells, and other small articles, but the top is not at all ornamented. The dress of the females is, indeed, more modest, and more studiously so than any we have observed, while the other sex are heedless of the indelicacy of exposure.

"The Chopunnish have very few amusements, their life being painful and laborious, and all their exertions being necessary to earn even a precarious subsistence. During the summer and autumn they are busily occupied in fishing for salmon, and collecting their winter store of roots. In the winter they

hunt the deer on snow-shoes over the plains, and toward spring cross the mountains to the Missouri, for the purpose of trafficking for buffalo robes. The inconveniences of this comfortless life are increased by frequent encounters with their enemies from the west, who drive them over the mountains with the loss of their horses, and sometimes the lives of many of the nation. Though originally the same people, their dialect varies very perceptibly from that of the Tushepaws. Their treatment to us differed much from the kind and disinterested services of the Shoshonees: they are, indeed, selfish and avaricious, parting very reluctantly with every article of food or clothing; and, while they expect a recompense for every service, however small, do not concern themselves about reciprocating any favors we may show them.

"They are generally healthy, the only disorders we have remarked among them being of a scrofulous kind; and for these, as well as for the amusement of those who are in good health, hot and cold bathing is very frequently used.

"The soil of these prairies is a light yellow clay; it is barren, and produces little more than a bearded grass about three inches high, and the prickly pear, of which we here found three species. The first is of the broad-leafed kind, common to the Missouri; the second has a leaf of a globular form, and is also frequent in the upper parts of the Missouri, particularly in the country along the river after it enters the Rocky Mountains. The third is peculiar to this country, and is much more troublesome than either of the others. It consists of small, thick leaves of a circular form, which grow from the margin of each other, as in the

broad-leafed pear of the Missouri. These leaves are armed with a great number of thorns, which are very strong, and appear to be barbed; and, as the leaf itself is very slightly attached to the stem, as soon as one of the thornes touches the moccasin, it adheres, and brings with it the leaf, accompanied by a re-enforcement of other thorns."

CHAPTER II.

Departure of the Party.—Description of an Indian Sweating-bath and Burial-place.—Dangerous Rapids.—Visits from the Indians, who manifest a pacific Disposition.—Description of the Sokulk Tribe.—Their Dress, and Manner of building Houses.—Their pacific Character.—Their Habits of Living.—Their Mode of boiling Salmon.—Vast Quantities of Salmon among the Sokulks.—Council held with this Tribe.—The Terror and Consternation excited by Captain Clarke.—Some Account of the Pishquitpaws.—Their Mode of burying the Dead.

"OCTOBER 11, 1805. This morning the wind was from the east, and the weather cloudy. We set out early, and at the distance of a mile and a half reached a point of rocks in a bend of the river towards the left, near to which was an old Indian house, and a meadow on the opposite bank. Here the hills came down towards the water, and, with the rocks which have fallen from their sides, formed a rapid, over which we were obliged to drag the canoes. A mile and a half farther we passed two Indians on the same side. We soon began to trade six miles from our camp of last evening reached the mouth of a brook on the left. Just above this stream we stopped for breakfast, at a large encampment of Indians on the same side. We soon began to trade with them for a stock of provisions, and were so fortunate as to purchase seven dogs and all the fish they

could spare. While this traffic was going on, we observed a vapor-bath or sweating-house of a different form from any used on the frontiers of the United States or among the Rocky Mountains: it was a hollow square of six or eight feet deep, formed against the river-bank by damming up with mud the other three sides, and covering the top completely, except an aperture about two feet wide. The bathers descend by this hole, taking with them a number of heated stones and jugs of water; and after seating themselves round the room, throw the water on the stones till the steam becomes of a temperature sufficiently high for their purpose. The baths of the Indians in the Rocky Mountains are of different sizes, the most common being made of mud and sticks, like an oven; but the mode of raising the steam is exactly the same. Among both these nations it is very uncommon for a man to bathe alone; he is generally accampanied by one, and sometimes several of his acquaintances. Indeed, it is so essentially a social amusement, that to decline going in the bath when invited by a friend is one of the highest indignities which can be offered. The Indians on the frontiers generally use a bath that will accommodate only one person, and which is formed of a wicker-work of willows, about four feet high, arched at the top, and covered with skins. In this the bather sits, till by means of the steam from the heated stones he has perspired sufficiently. These baths are almost universally in the neighborhood of running water, into which the Indians plunge immediately on coming out from them; and sometimes they return again, and subject themselves to a second perspiration. This practice is, however,

less frequent among the nations on our borders than those to the westward. The bath is employed either for pleasure or health, and is used indiscriminately for all kinds of diseases.

"Shortly after leaving our encampment we passed two rapids, and at the distance of four and a half miles reached one which was much more difficult. Three miles beyond this there were three huts of Indians on the right, where we stopped and obtained, in exchange for a few trifles, some *pasheco* roots, five dogs, and a small quantity of dried fish. We made our dinner of part of each of these articles, and then proceeded on without any obstruction till after we had gone twelve and a half miles, when we came to a stony island on the right side of the river, opposite to which was a rapid, and a second at its lower point. About three and a half miles beyond this island was a small brook emptying itself into a bend on the right, where we stopped at two Indian huts, which we found inhabited. Here we met two Indians belonging to a nation residing at the mouth of this river. We had made thirty-one miles to-day, although the weather was warm, and the current obstructed by nine different rapids, more or less difficult to pass. All these rapids are fishing places, greatly resorted to in the season; and as we passed we observed near them slabs and pieces of split timber raised from the ground, and some entire houses, vacant at present, but which will be occupied as soon as the Indians return from the plains on both sides of the river, where our chief informs us they are now hunting the antelope. Near each of the houses is a small collection of graves, the burial-places of those who frequent these establishments. The dead are

wrapped in robes of skin, and deposited in graves, which are covered over with earth, and marked or secured by little pickets or pieces of wood stuck promiscuously in and around them. The country on both sides, after mounting a steep ascent of about two hundred feet, becomes an open, level, and fertile plain, which is, however, as well as the borders of the river itself, entirely destitute of any kind of timber: and the chief growth we observed consisted of a few low blackberries." * * *

They continued to descend the river, and from the 12th to the 15th proceeded about sixty-three miles. On their way they passed several rapids, one of which was particularly dangerous, and two miles in length. They got over it safely, however, by the aid of their Indian pilots, but were less fortunate the next day; one of their canoes being driven sideways against a rock, so that she filled with water, and they were obliged to unload her to dry the baggage she had on board. Unfortunately, their roots and other provisions were in this boat, and were entirely spoiled. The only game they procured was a few geese and ducks. They passed two considerable streams on the 13th, the first of which they called Kimooenim Creek, and the other Drewyer's River. Having partly dried their baggage, they set out again late in the day on the 15th, intending to complete the drying at the mouth of the river, where they proposed stopping to take some celestial observations, and which they supposed could not be far distant.

"For the first four miles," proceeds the Journal, "we passed three islands, at the lower points of which were the same number of rapids, besides a fourth at a

distance from them. In the next ten miles we passed eight islands and three more rapids, and reached a point of rocks on the left. These islands were of vaious sizes, and were all composed of round stone and sand: the rapids were in many places difficult and dangerous to pass. The country now became lower than before, the ground near the river not being higher than ninety or a hundred feet, and extending back into a waving plain. Soon after leaving this point of rocks we entered a narrow channel, formed by the projecting cliffs of the bank, which rise nearly perpendicular from the water. The river is not, however, rapid, but gentle and smooth the whole length of its confinement, which continues for three miles, when it falls, or rather widens, into a kind of basin nearly round, and without any perceptible current. After passing through the basin we were joined by the three Indians who had piloted us through the rapids since we left the forks, and who, in company with our two chiefs, had gone before us. They had halted here to warn us of a dangerous rapid which begins at the lower point of the basin. As the day was too far spent to attempt it, we determined to examine it before descending, and therefore encamped near an island at its head, and studied particularly all its narrow and difficult parts. The spot where we landed was an old fishing establishment, of which there yet remained the timbers of a house, carefully raised on scaffolds to protect them against the spring freshet. Not being able to procure any other fuel, and the night being cold, we were a second time obliged to use the property of the Indians, who still remain in the plains hunting the antelope. Our progress had been but twenty miles, in consequence of the

difficulty of passing the rapids; and our game consisted of only two teal.

"October 16. Having fully examined the rapids which we found even more difficult than the report of the Indians had induced us to believe, we set out early, and, putting our Indian guide in front, our smallest canoe next, and the rest in succession, began the descent. The passage proved to be very disagreeable, as there was a continuation of shoals, extending from bank to bank, for the distance of three miles, the channel being narrow and crooked, and obstructed by large rocks in every direction, so as to require great dexterity to avoid being dashed against them. We got through, however, with no injury to any of the boats except the hindmost, which ran on a rock; but, by the assistance of the other boats and of the Indians, who were very alert, she escaped, though the baggage on board of her was wet. Within three miles we passed three small islands, on one of which were the parts of a house, put on scaffolds as usual, and soon after came to another rapid at the lower extremity of three small islands, and to a second, again, at the distance of a mile and a half below them. At six miles from the great rapid we reached a point of rocks at a rapid opposite to the upper part of a small island on the left: three miles farther there was another rapid; and two miles beyond this, a very bad one, or rather, a fall of the river. This last proved, on examination, to be so difficult that we thought it imprudent to attempt it, and therefore unloaded the canoes, and made a portage of three quarters of a mile. This rapid, which is of about the same length, is much broken by rocks and shoals, and has a small island in it, on the right side.

"After completing the transportation we halted for dinner, and while we were eating were visited by five Indians, who had come up the river on foot in great haste. We received them kindly, smoked with them, and gave them a piece of tobacco to smoke with their tribe; on receiving this they set out to return, and continued running as fast as they could while they remained in sight. Their curiosity had been excited by the accounts of our two chiefs, who had gone on ahead, to apprize the tribes of our approach, and of our friendly dispositions towards them. After dinner we reloaded the canoes and proceeded. We soon passed a rapid opposite to the upper point of a sandy island on the left, which has a smaller island near it. At three miles there was a gravelly bar in the river; and four miles beyond this, the Kimooenim River empties itself into the Columbia, having an island at its mouth, just below a small rapid. We halted above the point of junction, on the Kimooenim, to confer with the Indians who had collected in great numbers to recieve us. On landing we were met by our two chiefs, to whose good offices we were indebted for this reception, and also by the two Indians who had passed us a few days since on horseback; one of them appearing to be a man of influence, as he harangued the assembly on our arrival. After smoking with the Indians, we formed a camp at the point where the two rivers unite, near which we found some driftwood: we were also supplied by our two old chiefs with the stalks of willows and some small bushes for fuel. Scarcely had we fixed our quarters and got the fires prepared, when a chief came from the Indian camp about a fourth of a mile up the Columbia, at the head of nearly two hundred men.

They formed a regular procession, keeping time to the music, or, rather, noise of their drums, which they accompanied with their voices; and as they advanced, they ranged themselves in a semicircle around us, and continued singing for some time. We then smoked with them all, and communicated, as well as we could by signs, our friendly intentions towards every nation, and our joy at finding ourselves surrounded by our children. After this we proceeded to distribute presents among them, giving the principal chief a large medal, a shirt, and a handkerchief; to the second chief, a medal of smaller size; and to a third, who had come down from some of the upper villages, a small medal and a handkerchief. This ceremony being concluded, they left us; but in the course of the afternoon several of them returned, and remained with us till a late hour. After they had dispersed, we proceeded to purchase provisions, and were enabled to collect seven dogs, to which some of the Indians added small presents of fish, and one of them gave us twenty pounds of fat dried horse-flesh.

"October 17. The day being fair, we were occupied in taking the necessary observations for determining our longitude, and we obtained a meridian altitude, from which it appeared that we were in latitude 46° 15′ 13.9″. We also measured the two rivers by angles, and found that at the junction the Columbia was nine hundred and sixty yards wide, and Lewis's River five hundred and seventy-five; but, soon after they unite, the former widens to the breadth of from one to three miles, including the islands. From the point of confluence the country is a continued plain, low near the water, and rising gradually from it;

the only elevation to be seen being a range of high country running from the northeast towards the southwest, where it joins a chain of mountains from the southwest, and on the opposite side is about two miles from the Columbia. There is throughout this plain not a single tree, nor scarcely any shrubs, except a few willow bushes; and even of smaller plants there is not much more than the prickly pear, which is in great abundance, and even more thorny and troublesome than any we had yet seen. In the mean time the principal chief came down, with several of his warriors, and smoked with us. We were also visited by several men and women, who offered dogs and dried fish for sale; but as the fish was out of season, being at present abundant in the river, we contented ourselves with purchasing the dogs. The nation among whom we now are call themselves Sokulks; and with them are united a few of another nation, who reside on a western branch, emptying itself into the Columbia a few miles above the mouth of the latter river, and whose name is Chimnapum.

"The languages of these two nations, of both of which we obtained a vocabulary, differ but little from each other or from that of the Chopunnish, who inhabit the Kooskooskee and Lewis Rivers. In their dress and general appearance, also, they much resemble that nation; the men wearing a robe of deer or antelope skin, under which a few of them have a short leathern shirt. The most striking difference is among the females, the Sokulk women being more inclined to corpulency than any we have yet seen. Their stature is low, their faces are broad and their heads flattened in such a manner that the forehead is in a straight

line from the nose to the crown of the head. Their eyes are of a dirty sable, their hair is coarse and black, and braided without ornament of any kind. Instead of wearing, as do the Chopunnish, long leathern shirts highly decorated with beads and shells, the Sokulk women have no other covering but a truss or piece of leather tied round the hips, and drawn tight between the legs. The ornaments usually worn by both sexes are large blue or white beads, either pendant from their ears or round the neck, wrists, and arms: they have likewise bracelets of brass, copper, and horn, and some trinkets of shells, fish-bones, and curious feathers The houses of the Sokulks are made of large mats of rushes, and are generally of a square or oblong form, varying in length from fifteen to sixty feet, and supported in the inside by poles or forks about six feet high. The top is covered with mats, leaving a space of twelve or fifteen inches the whole length of the house, for the purpose of admitting the light and suffering the smoke to escape. The roof is nearly flat,which seems to indicate that rains are not common in this open country; and the house is not divided into apartments, the fire being in the middle of the enclosure, and immediately under the hole in the roof. The interior is ornamented with their nets, gigs, and other fishing-tackle, as well as the bow of each inmate, and a large quiver of arrows, which are headed with flint.

"The Sokulks seem to be of a mild and peaceable disposition, and live in a state of comparative happiness. The men, like those on the Kimooenim, are said to content themselves with a single wife, with whom the husband, we observe, shares the labours of procuring subsistence much more than is common among sav-

ages. What may be considered an unequivocal proof of their good disposition, is the great respect which is shown to old age. Among other marks of it we noticed in one of the houses an old woman perfectly blind, and who, we were told, had lived more than a hundred winters. In this state of decrepitude, she occupied the best position in the house, seemed to be treated with great kindness, and whatever she said was listened to with much attention. They are by no means obtrusive and as their fisheries supply them with a competent, if not an abundant subsistence, although they receive thankfully whatever we choose to give, they do not importune us by begging. Fish is, indeed, their chief food, to which they add roots, and occasionally the flesh of the antelope, which, as they have only bows and arrows, must be very scanty. This diet may be the immediate or remote cause of the principal disorder prevailing among them, as well as among the Flatheads on the Kooskooskee and Lewis Rivers. With all these Indians soreness of the eyes, is very common, and it is so aggravated by neglect that many are deprived of one of their eyes, and some have lost entirely the use of both. This dreadful disorder may also, we think, be imputed, in part, to the reflection of the sun from the waters, where they are constanly fishing in the spring, summer, and autumn, and during the rest of the year from the snow, in a country where there is no object to relieve the sight. Among the Sokulks, too, and, indeed, among all the tribes whose chief subsistence is fish, we have observed that bad teeth are very general; some have the teeth, particularly those of the upper jaw, worn down to the gums; and many of both sexes, and even of the middle age, have

lost them entirely. This decay of the teeth is a circumstance very unusual among the Indians, either on the mountains or plains, and seems peculiar to those of the Columbia. We cannot avoid regarding as one cause of it the manner in which they eat their food. The roots are swallowed as they are dug from the ground, frequently nearly covered with gritty sand; and so little idea have they that this is offensive, that all the roots they bring us for sale are in the same condition. Another and important cause may be their great use of dried salmon, the bad effects of which are most probably increased by their mode of cooking it, which is simply to warm it, and then eat the skin,scales, and flesh, without any further preparation. The Sokulks possess but few horses, the greater part of their labours being performed in canoes. Their amusements are similar to those of the Missouri Indians.

" In the course of the day, Captain Clarke, in a small canoe with two men, ascended the Columbia. At the distance of five miles he passed an island in the middle of the river, at the head of which was a small but dangerous rapid. On the left bank, opposite to this island, was a fishing-place consisting of three mat houses. Here were great quantities of salmon drying on scaffolds; and, indeed, from the mouth of the river upward, he saw immense numbers of dead salmon strewed along the shore, or floating on the surface of the water, which is so clear that the fish may be seen swimming at the depth of fifteen or twenty feet. The Indians, who had collected on the bank to observe him, now joined him in eighteen canoes, and accompanied him up the river. A mile above the rapids he came to the lower point of an island, where the course of the stream, which had

been from its mouth north 83° west, now became due west. He proceeded in that direction, until, observing three houses of mats at a short distance, he landed to visit them. On entering one of these houses he found it crowded with men, women and children, who immediately provided a mat for him to sit on, and one of the party undertook to prepare something to eat. He began by bringing in a piece of pine wood that had drifted down the river, which he split into small pieces with a wedge made of elkhorn, by means of a mallet of stone curiously carved. The pieces of wood were then laid on the fire, and several round stones placed upon them. One of the squaws now brought a bucket of water, in which was a large salmon about half dried, and, as the stones became heated, they were put into the bucket till the salmon was sufficiently boiled for use. It was then taken out, put on a platter of rushes neatly made, and laid before Captain Clarke, while another was boiled for each of his men. During these preparations he smoked with such about him as would accept of tobacco, though very few would do it, smoking not being general among them, and chiefly used as a matter of form in great ceremonies. After eating the fish, which was of an excellent flavour, Captain Clarke again set out, and at the distance of four miles from the last island came to the lower point of another, near the left shore, where he halted at two large mat houses. Here, as at the three houses below, the inhabitants were occupied in splitting and drying salmon. The multitudes of this fish, indeed, are almost inconceivable. The water is so clear, as we have already remarked, that they can readily be seen at the depth of fifteen or twenty feet; but at this season they float down the

stream, and are drifted ashore in such quantities that the Indians have only to collect, split, and dry them on the scaffolds. Where they procure the timber of which these scaffolds are composed, he could not learn; and, as there are nothing but willow bushes to be seen for a great distance from this place, it renders very probable, what the Indians assured him by signs, that they often use dried fish as fuel for the common occasions of cooking. From this island they showed him the entrance of a western branch of the Columbia, called the Tapteal, which, as far as could be seen, bears nearly west, and empties itself about eight miles above into the Columbia, the general course of which is northwest. Towards the southwest a range of high land runs parallel to the river, at the distance of two miles on the left, while on the right side the country is low, and covered with the prickly pear and a weed or plant two or three feet high, resembling the whin. To the eastward is a range of mountains about fifty or sixty miles distant, bearing north and south; but neither in the low grounds nor in the highlands is any timber to be seen. The evening coming on, he determined not to proceed farther than the island, and therefore returned to camp, accompanied by three canoes containing twenty Indians. In the course of his excursion he shot several grouse and ducks, and received some presents of fish, for which he gave in return small pieces of riband. He also killed a prairie-cock, a bird of the pheasant kind, but about the size of a small turkey. It measured from the beak to the end of the toe two feet six inches and three quarters; from the extremities of the wings three feet six inches; and the feathers of the tail were thirteen inches long. This bird

we have seen nowhere except on this river. Its chief food is the grasshopper, and the seed of a wild plant which is peculiar to this river and the upper parts of the Missouri.

"The men availed themselves of this day's rest to mend their clothes, dress skins, and put their arms in order: an object always of primary concern, but particularly at a moment when we were surrounded by so many strangers.

"October 18. We were visited this morning by several canoes of Indians, who joined those already with us, and formed a numerous council. We informed them, as we had done all the other Indian nations, of our friendship for them, and of our desire to promote peace among all our red children in this country. This was conveyed by signs through our two chiefs, and seemed to be perfectly understood. We then made a second chief, and gave to all the chiefs a string of wampum, in remembrance of what we had said. While the conference was going on, four men came in a canoe from a large encampment on an island about eight miles below, but, after staying a few minutes, returned without saying a word to us. We now procured from the principal chief and one of the Cuimnapum nation a sketch of the Columbia, and some account of the tribes of his nation living along its banks and those of the Tapteal. They drew it with a piece of coal on a robe, and, as we afterwards transferred it to paper, it exhibited a valuable specimen of Indian delineation.

"Having completed the purpose of our stay, we now began to lay in our stores, and as it was not the season for dried fish, purchased forty dogs, for which

we gave small articles, such as bells, thimbles, knitting-needles, brass wire, and a few beads: an exchange with which they all seemed perfectly satisfied. These dogs, with six prairie-cocks killed this morning, formed a plentiful supply for the present. We here left our guide, and the two young men who had accompanied him; two of the three not being willing to go any farther, and the third being of no use, as he was not acquainted with the river below. We therefore took no Indians but our two chiefs, and resumed our journey in the presence of many of the Sokulks, who came to witness our departure. The morning was cool and fair, and the wind from the southeast."

Soon after starting they passed the mouth of Lewis's River, and as they continued to descend, saw different fishing establishments on the shore. Having proceeded twenty miles, they encamped for the night, and soon after landing were informed by their two chiefs that the largest of these establishments belonged to the most important chief in that part of the country. On receiving this intelligence, the two chiefs were despatched to invite the great chief to spend the night at the encampment. He accordingly came, accompanied by twenty men, bringing a basket of mashed berries, which he presented to the strangers, but established a separate camp at some distance from them.

"October 19. The great chief," continues the narrative, "with two of his inferior chiefs, and a third belonging to a band on the river below, made us a visit at a very early hour. The first of these, called Yellepit, was a handsome, well-proportioned man, about five feet eight inches high, and thirty-five years of age, with

a bold and dignified countenance: the rest had nothing remarkable in their appearance. We smoked with them, and, after making a speech, gave a medal, a handkerchief, and a string of wampum to Yellepit, and a string of wampum only to the inferior chiefs. He requested us to remain till the middle of the day, that all his nation might come and see us; but we excused ourselves by telling him that on our return we would spend two or three days with him. This conference detained us till nine o'clock, by which time great numbers of the Indians had come down to visit us."

As they descended they passed an island where were several Indian houses, the occupants of which were, as usual, employed in drying fish, and seemed to be much alarmed at the approach of the party. They proceeded on, and at the distance of about twelve miles from the point they had left in the morning, they came to a very dangerous rapid, which, however, they succeeded in passing safely, though with great fatigue and difficulty. "In order," proceeds the Journal, "to lighten the boats, Captain Clarke, with the two chiefs, the interpreter and his wife, had walked across the low grounds on the left to the foot of the rapids. On the way he ascended a cliff about two hundred feet above the water, from which he saw that the country on both sides of the river, immediately from its cliffs, was low, and spread itself into a level plain, extending for a great distance in every direction. To the west, at the distance of about one hundred and fifty miles, was a very high mountain covered with snow; and, from its direction and appearance, he supposed it to be Mount St. Helen's, laid down by Vancouver as visible from the mouth of the Columbia: there was also another

mountain of a conical form, whose top was covered with snow, in a southwest direction.

"As Captain Clarke arrived at the lower end of the rapid before any, except one of the small canoes, he sat down on a rock to wait for them, and, seeing a crane fly across the river, shot it, and it fell near him. Several Indians had been before this passing on the opposite side towards the rapids, and some who were then nearly in front of him, being either alarmed at his appearance or the report of the gun, fled to their houses. Captain Clarke was afraid that these people had not yet heard that the white men were coming, and therefore, in order to allay their uneasiness before the rest of the party should arrive, he got into the small canoe with three men, rowed over towards the houses, and, while crossing, shot a duck, which fell into the water. As he approached no person was to be seen except three men in the plains, and they, too, fled as he came near the shore. He landed in front of five houses close to each other, but no one appeared, and the doors, which were of mat, were closed. He went towards one of them with a pipe in his hand, and, pushing aside the mat, entered the lodge, where he found thirty-two persons, chiefly men and women, with a few children, all in the greatest consternation; some hanging down their heads, others crying and wringing their hands. He went up to them, and shook hands with each one in a most friendly manner; but their apprehensions, which had for a moment subsided, revived on his taking out a burning-glass, as there was no roof to the house, and lighted his pipe; he then offered it to several of the men, and distributed among the women and children some small trinkets which he

had with him, and gradually restored a degree of tranquility among them. Leaving this house, and directing each of his men to visit a house, he entered a second. Here he found the inmates more terrified than those in the first; but he succeeded in pacifying them, and afterward went into the other houses, where the men had been equally successful. Retiring from the houses, he seated himself on a rock, and beckoned to some of the men to come and smoke with him; but none of them ventured to join him till the canoes arrived with the two chiefs, who immediately explained our pacific intentions towards them. Soon after the interpreter's wife landed, and her presence dissipated all doubts of our being well-disposed, since in this country no woman ever accompanies a war-party; they therefore all came out, and seemed perfectly reconciled; nor could we, indeed, blame them for their terrors, which were perfectly natural. They told the two chiefs that they knew we were not men, for they had seen us fall from the clouds. In fact, unperceived by them, Captain Clarke had shot the white crane, which they had seen fall just before he appeared to their eyes: the duck which he had killed also fell close by him; and as there were some clouds flying over at the moment, they connected the fall of the birds with his sudden appearance, and believed that he had himself actually dropped from the clouds; considering the noise of the rifle, which they had never heard before, the sound announcing so extraordinary an event. This belief was strengthened, when, on entering the room, he brought down fire from the heavens by means of his burning-glass. We soon convinced them, however, that we were merely mortals; and after one of our

chiefs had explained our history and objects, we all smoked together in great harmony. These people do not speak precisely the same language as the Indians farther up, but understand them in conversation. In a short time we were joined by many of the inhabitants from below, several of them on horseback, and all pleased to see us, and to exchange their fish and berries for a few trinkets.

"We remained here till after dinner, and then proceeded. At half a mile the hilly country on the right side of the river ceased; at eleven miles we found a small rapid; and a mile farther we came to a small island on the left, where there were some willows. In going this distance from the five lodges we passed twenty more, dispersed along the river at different points of the valley on the right; but, as the inhabitants were now apprized of our coming, they showed no signs of alarm. On leaving the island we proceeded three miles farther, through a country which was low on both sides of the river, and encamped under some willow-trees on the left, having made thirty-six miles. Immediately opposite to us was an island close to the left shore, and another in the middle of the river, on which were twenty-four houses of Indians, all engaged in drying fish. We had scarcely landed before about a hundred of them came over in their boats to visit us, bringing with them a present of some wood, which was very acceptable. We received them in as kind a manner as we could, smoked with all of them, and gave the principal chief a string of wampum; but the highest satisfaction they derived from the music of two of our violins, with which they seemed much delighted: they remained all night at our fires.

"This tribe is a branch of the nation called Pishquitpaws, and can raise about three hundred and fifty men. In their dress they resemble the Indians near the Forks of the Columbia, except that their robes are smaller, and do not reach lower than the waist; indeed, three-fourths of them have scarcely anything that can be called a robe. The dress of the females is equally scanty, for they wear only a small piece of a robe, which covers their shoulders and neck, and reaches down the back to the waist, where it is attached by a piece of leather tied tight around the body; their cheek-bones are high, their heads flattened, and their persons in general adorned with scarcely any ornaments. Both sexes were employed in curing fish, of which they had great quantities on their scaffolds.

"October 20. The morning was cool, the wind from the southwest. Our appearance had excited the curiosity of the neighborhood so much, that before we set out about two hundred Indians had collected to see us; and, as we were desirous of securing their friendship, we remained to smoke and confer with them till breakfast. We then took our repast, which consisted wholly of dog's flesh, and proceeded. We passed three vacant houses near our camp, and at six miles reached the head of a rapid, on descending which we soon came to another very difficult and dangerous: it is formed by a chain of large black rocks stretching from the right side of the river, and, with several small islands on the left, nearly choking the channel. To this we gave the name of Pelican Rapid, from seeing a number of pelicans and black cormorants about it. Just below it was a small island near the right shore, where were four houses, the occupants of which

were busy in drying fish. At sixteen miles from our camp we reached a bend to the left, opposite a large island, and at one o'clock halted for dinner, on the lower point of an island on the right side of the channel. Close to this was a larger island on the same side, and near the left bank a small one, a little below. We landed near some Indian huts, and counted on this cluster of three islands seventeen of them, filled with inhabitants resembling in every respect those higher up; and, like them, they were busy in preparing fish. We purchased of them some dried fish, which were not good, and a few berries, on which we dined, and then walked to the head of the island, for the purpose of examining a vault which we had observed in coming along.

"This place, in which the dead were deposited, was a building about sixty feet long and twelve feet wide, and was formed by fixing in the ground poles, with forks, six feet high, across which a long pole was extended the whole length of the structure. Against this ridge-pole were placed broad boards and pieces of canoes in a slanting direction, so as to form a shed. It stood east and west, and neither of the extremities was closed. On entering the western end we observed a number of bodies wrapped carefully in leathern robes, arranged in rows on boards, and covered with a mat. This was the part destined for those recently deceased; while a little farther on there were bones half decayed and scattered about, and in the center of the building there was a large pile of them heaped promiscuously on each other. At the eastern extremity was a mat, on which were placed twenty-one skulls, in a circular form: the mode of interment being, first,

to wrap the body in robes, and as it decays the bones are thrown into a heap, and the skulls placed together. From the different boards and pieces of canoes which formed the vault, there were suspended on the inside fishing-nets, baskets, wooden bowls, robes, skins, trenchers, and trinkets of various kinds, obviously intended as offerings of affection to deceased relatives. On the outside of the burial-place were the skeletons of several horses, and great quantities of their bones in the neighbourhood, which induced us to believe that these animals were most probably sacrificed at the funeral rites of their masters."

After leaving this place the country became more hilly, and they encamped in the evening, having made forty-two miles. They killed several ducks and two speckled gulls.

CHAPTER III.

The Party in their Descent still visited by the Indians.—Lepage's River.—Towahnahiooks River.—Indian Mode of stacking Fish, and preparing them for Market.—Description of the Great Falls.—Description of an Indian Canoe.—Alarm excited by an anticipated Attack from the Eheltoots.—Dangerous Rapid, called by the Indians The Falls.—Account of the Indian Houses in the Neighbourhood.—Another frightful Rapid.—Some Account of the Chilluckittequaw Indians.—Captain Clarke examines the Great Rapids.—Description of an Indian Burial-place.—The Rapids passed in Safety.

"OCTOBER 21. The morning was cool, and the wind from the southwest. At five and a half miles we passed a small island, and one and a half farther another in the middle of the river, with some rapid water near its head, and opposite to its lower extremity were eight cabins of Indians. We landed near them for breakfast; but such was the scarcity of wood, that the last evening we had not been able to collect anything except dry willows, and of these not more than barely sufficient to cook our supper: this morning we could not find enough even to prepare our breakfast. The Indians received us with great kindness, and examined everything they saw with much attention. In their appearance and employments, as well as in their language, they did not differ from those higher up the river. Their dress,

too, was nearly the same; that of the men consisting of nothing but a short robe of deer or goat skin, and the women wearing only a piece of dressed skin, falling from the neck so as to cover the front of the body as low as the waist; a bandage tied round the body, and passing between the legs; and over this a short robe of deer and antelope skin was occasionally thrown. Here we saw two blankets of scarlet and one of blue cloth, and also a sailor's round jacket; but we could obtain only a few pounded roots and some fish, for which, of course, we paid. Among other things we observed some acorns, the fruit of the white oak. These they use as food, either raw or roasted; and on inquiry, they informed us that they were procured from the Indians who live near the Great Falls. This place they designated by a name very commonly applied to it by the Indians, and highly expressive, the word Timm, which they pronounce so as to make it perfectly represent the sound of a distant cataract."

They found the river obstructed by rocks and frequent rapids, and towards the close of the day it became much narrower. Passing a considerable stream coming in from the southeast, to which they gave the name of Lepage's River, about seven miles below they encamped near some Indian huts to spend the night.

"The inhabitants of these huts," says the journalist, "stated to us that they were the relations of the Indians living at the Great Falls. They appeared to be of the same nation with those we had seen above, resembling them, indeed, in everything, except that their language, though essentially the same, has some words different. They have all pierced noses; and the men, when in full dress, wear a long tapering piece of shell

or bead put through the nose. These people did not, however, receive us with as much cordiality as we had been accustomed to. They were poor, but we were able to purchase from them some wood to make a fire, of which, however, they had but little, and which they said they brought from the Great Falls. The hills in this neighborhood are high and rugged, and a few scattered trees, either small pine or scrubby white oak, were occasionally seen on them. From the last rapids we observe a conical mountain towards the southwest which the Indians said was not far to the left of the Great Falls; and from its vicinity to that place, we called it the Timm, or Falls Mountain. The country through which we passed furnished with several fine springs, which rise either high up the sides of the hills, or else in the river meadows, and discharge themselves into the Columbia. We could not help remarking that the fishing establishments of the Indians, both on the Columbia and the waters of Lewis's River, are almost universally on the right bank. On inquiry, we were led to believe that the reason of this may be found in their fear of the Snake Indians; between whom and themselves, considering the warlike temper of that people, and the peaceful habits of the river tribes, it is very natural that the latter should be anxious to interpose so good a barrier. These Indians are described as residing on a great river to the south, and as always at war with the people of this neighborhood. One of our chiefs pointed out to-day a spot on the left, where, not many years ago, a great battle had been fought, in which numbers of both nations were killed."

The following day they passed an island four miles

in length, and about midway of it a large river appearing to come from the southeast, two hundred yards wide at its mouth, and increasing the volume of the Columbia one fourth. The Indians called it the Towahnahiooks. Six miles below this, near some Indian huts, they came to the commencement of the Great Falls. "Here," continues the Journal, "we halted, and immediately on landing walked down, accompanied by an old Indian from the huts, to examine the falls, in order to ascertain on which side we could make a portage most easily. We soon discovered that the nearest route was on the right side, and therefore dropped down to the head of the rapid, unloaded the canoes, and took all the baggage over by hand to the foot of it. The distance is twelve hundred yards. On setting out, we crossed a solid rock about one third of the whole distance; then reached a space of two hundred yards wide, which forms a hollow, where the loose sand from the low grounds has been driven by the winds, and is steep and loose, and therefore difficult to pass; the rest of the route was over firm and solid ground. The labor of crossing would have been very great, if the Indians had not assisted us in carrying some of the heavy articles on their horses; but for this service they repaid themselves so adroitly, that, on reaching the foot of the rapids, we found it necessary to form a camp in a position which would secure us from their pilfering, which we dreaded much more than their hostility. Near our camp were five large huts, the occupants being engaged in drying fish and preparing it for market.

"Their manner of doing this is, first, opening the fish and exposing it to the sun on scaffolds. When it

is sufficiently dried, it is pounded between two stones till it is completely pulverized, and is then placed in a basket about two feet long and one in diameter, neatly made of grass and rushes, and lined with the skin of a salmon stretched and dried for the purpose. Here it is pressed down as hard as possible, and the top covered with the skins of fish, which are secured by cords through the holes of the basket. The baskets are then put in some dry situation, the corded part upward, seven being usually placed as closely as they can be together, and five on the top of them. The whole is then wrapped up in mats, and made fast by cords, over which other mats are thrown. Twelve of these baskets, each of which contains from ninety to a hundred pounds, form a stack, which is now left till it is sent to market. Fish thus prepared is kept sound and sweet for several years, and great quantities of it, they told us, were sent to the Indians living below the falls, whence it found its way to the whites who visited the mouth of the Columbia. We observed, both near the lodges and on the rocks in the river, great numbers of stacks of these pounded fish.

"Besides fish, these people supplied us with filberts and berries, and we purchased a dog for supper; but it was with much difficulty that we were able to buy wood enough to cook it. In the course of the day we were visited by many Indians, from whom we learned that the principal chiefs of the bands residing in this neighborhood were now hunting in the mountains towards the southwest. On that side of the river none of the tribes have any permanent habitations; and on inquiry, we were confirmed in our belief that it was from the fear of being attacked by the Snake

Indians, with whom they are constantly at war. This nation they represent as being very numerous, and residing in a great number of villages on the Towahnahiooks, where they live principally on salmon. That river, they add, is not obstructed by rapids above its mouth, but becomes large, and reaches to a considerable distance; the first villages of the Snake Indians being twelve days' journey, on a course about southeast from this place.

"October 23. Having ascertained from the Indians, and by our own examination, the best mode of bringing down the canoes, it was concluded, as the river was divided into several narrow channels by rocks and islands, to follow the route adopted by the Indians themselves. This labor Captain Clarke commenced in the morning, and, after crossing to the other side of the river, hauled the canoes over a point of land, so as to avoid a perpendicular fall of seventy feet. At the distance of four hundred and fifty-seven yards we reached the water, and embarked at a place where a long, rocky island compresses the channel within the space of a hundred and fifty yards, so as to form nearly a semi-circle. On leaving this rocky island the channel is somewhat wider, but a second and much larger island of hard black rock still divides it from the main stream, while on the left shore it is closely bordered by perpendicular cliffs. Having descended in this way for a mile, we reached a pitch of the river, which, being divided by two large rocks, descends with great rapidity down a fall eight feet in height. As the boats could not be navigated down this steep descent, we were obliged to land, and let them down as slowly as possible by strong ropes of elkskin, which we had pre-

pared for the purpose. They all passed in safety except one, which, being loosed by the breaking of the ropes, was driven down with all the force of the current, but afterward recovered by the Indians below. With this rapid ends the first pitch of the Great Falls, which are not so remarkable in point of height as for the singular manner in which the rocks divide its channel. From the marks everywhere perceivable at these falls, it is obvious that, in the high floods in the spring, the water below the falls rises nearly to a level with that above. Of this rise, occasioned by obstructions we had not yet seen, the salmon must avail themselves to pass up the river, and in such multitudes that that fish is almost the only one caught in great abundance above the falls: below these, however, we observed the salmon trout, and the heads of a smaller species of trout, which are in great numbers, and which they are now burying, to be used for winter food. A hole being dug, the sides and bottom are lined with straw, over which skins are laid; and on these the fish, after being well dried, is placed, covered with other skins, and the hole closed with a layer of earth twelve or fifteen inches deep.

"About three o'clock we reached the lower camp, but our joy at having accomplished this object was somewhat diminished by the persecution of a new acquaintance. On reaching the upper point of the portage, we found that the Indians had been encamped there not long since, and had left behind them multitudes of fleas. These sagacious tormentors were so well pleased to exchange the straw and fish skins in which they had been living for a more comfortable residence, that we were soon covered with them; and during the portage the men were obliged to strip to

the skin, in order to brush them from their bodies. They were not, however, so easily dislodged from our clothes, and accompanied us in great numbers to our camp.

"We saw no game except a sea-otter, which was shot in the narrow channel as we were coming down, but we could not get it. Having, therefore, scarcely any provisions, we purchased eight small fat dogs: a food to which we were compelled to have recourse, as the Indians were very unwilling to sell us any of their good fish, which they reserved for the market below. Fortunately, however, habit had completely overcome the repugnance which we felt at first at eating this animal, and the dog, if not a favorite dish, was always an acceptable one. The meridian altitude of to-day gave 45° 42′ 57.3″ north as the latitude of our camp.

"On the beach, near the Indian huts, we observed two canoes of a different shape and size from any which we had hitherto seen. One of these we got by giving our smallest canoe, a hatchet, and a few trinkets to the owner, who said he had obtained it from a white man below the falls in exchange for a horse. These canoes were very beautifully made: wide in the middle, and tapering toward each end, with curious figures carved on the bow. They were thin, but, being strengthened by crossbars about an inch in diameter, tied with strong pieces of bark through holes in the sides, were able to bear very heavy burdens, and seemed calculated to live in the roughest water.

"A great number of Indians both from above and below the falls visited us this day, and towards evening we were informed by one of the chiefs who had accom-

panied us, that he had overheard that the Indians below intended to attack us as we went down the river; but, being at all times ready for an attempt of that sort, we were not under any particular apprehensions at this intelligence: we therefore merely examined our arms, and increased the ammunition to one hundred rounds. Our chiefs, who had not the same motives of confidence, were by no means so much at their ease; and when at night they saw the Indians leave us earlier than usual, their suspicions of an intended attack were confirmed, and they were very much alarmed. The next morning,

"October 24, the Indians approached us with apparent caution, and behaved with more than usual reserve. Our two chiefs, by whom these circumstances were not unobserved, now told us that they wished to return home; that they could no longer be of any service to us, as they could not understand the language of the people below the falls; that these people formed a different nation from their own; that the two people had been at war with each other; and as the Indians had expressed a resolution to attack us, they would certainly kill them. We endeavored to quiet their fears, and requested them to stay two nights longer, in which time we would see the Indians below, and make a peace between the two nations. They replied that they were anxious to return, to look after their horses. We, however, insisted on their remaining with us, not only in the hope of bringing about an accommodation between them and their enemies, but because they might be able to detect any hostile designs against us, and also assist us in passing the next falls, which were not for off, and represented as very difficult:

they at length consented to our proposal. About nine o'clock we proceeded, and on leaving our camp near the lower fall, found the river about four hundred yards wide, with a current more rapid than usual, though with no perceptible descent. At the distance of two and a half miles it widened into a large bend or basin on the right, at the beginning of which were three Indian huts. At the extremity of this basin stood a high black rock, which, rising perpendicularly from the right shore, seemed to run wholly across the river: so totally, indeed, did it appear to stop the passage, that we could not see where the water escaped, except that the current was seemingly drawn with more than usual velocity to the left of the rock, where was heard a great roaring. We landed at the huts of the Indians, who went with us to the top of the rock, from which we had a view of all the difficulties of the channel. We were now no longer at a loss to account for the rising of the river at the falls; for this tremendous rock was seen stretching across the river, to meet the high hills on the left shore, leaving a channel of only forty-five yards wide, through which the whole body of the Columbia pressed its way. The water, thus forced into so narrow a passage, was thrown into whirls, and swelled and boiled in every part with the wildest agitation. But the alternative of carrying the boats over this high rock was almost impossible in our present situation; and as the chief danger seemed to be, not from any obstructions in the channel, but from the great waves and whirlpools, we resolved to attempt the passage, in the hope of being able, by dexterous steering, to descend in safety. This we undertook

and with great care were able to get through, to the astonishment of the Indians in the huts we had just passed who now collected to see us from the top of the rock. The channel continued thus confined for the space of about half a mile, when the rock ceased. We passed a single Indian hut at the foot of it, where the river again enlarged itself to the width of two hundred yards, and at the distance of a mile and a half stopped to view a very bad rapid, formed by the rocky islands which divided the channel, and the lower and larger of which was in the middle of the river. The appearance of this place was so unpromising, that we unloaded all the most valuable articles, such as guns, ammunition, our papers, &c., and sent them by land, with such of the men as could not swim, to the extremity of the rapid. We then descended with the canoes, two at a time, and though they took in some water, we all passed down safely; after which we made two miles, and stopped in a deep bend of river towards the right, and encamped a little above a large village of twenty-one houses. Here we landed, and as it was late before all the canoes joined us, we were obliged to remain, the difficulties of the navigation having permitted us to make only six miles. This village was situated at the extremity of a deep bend towards the right, and immediately above a ledge of high rocks, twenty feet above the marks of the highest flood, but broken in several places so as to form channels, which were then dry, extending nearly across the river: this forms the second fall, or the place, most probably, which the Indians mean by the word Timm. While the canoes were coming up, Captain Clarke walked down with

two men to examine these channels. On the rocks here the Indians are accustomed to dry fish; and as the season for that purpose was now over, the poles which they use were tied up very securely in bundles, and placed on the scaffolds. The stock of dried and pounded fish was so abundant, that he counted one hundred and seven heaps, making more than ten thousand pounds of provision. After examining the narrows as well as the lateness of the hour would permit, he returned to the village through a rocky, open country infested with polecats. This village, the residence of a tribe called the Echeloots, consisted of houses scattered promiscuously over an elevated situation, near a mound more than thirty feet above the common level, with some remains of houses on it, and having every appearance of being artificial.

"The houses, which were the first wooden buildings we had seen since leaving the Illinois country, were nearly equal in size, and exhibited a very singular appearance. A large hole, twenty feet wide and thirty in length, was dug to the depth of six feet; the sides of which were lined with split pieces of timber rising just above the surface of the ground, and smoothed to the same width by burning, or by being shaved with small iron axes. These timbers were secured in their erect position by a pole stretched along the side of the building near the eaves, and supported on a strong post fixed at each corner. The timbers at the gable ends rose gradually higher, the middle pieces being the broadest. At the top of these was a sort of semicircle, made to receive a ridge-pole the whole length of the house, propped by an additional post in the middle, and forming the top of the

roof. From this ridge-pole to the eaves of the house were placed a number of small poles or rafters, secured at each end by fibres of the cedar. On these poles, which were connected by small transverse bars of wood was laid a covering of white cedar, or *arbor vitæ*, kept on by strands of cedar fibres; but a small space along the whole length of the ridge-pole was left uncovered, for the purpose of light, and of permitting the smoke to pass out. The roof, thus formed, had a descent about equal to that common among us, and near the eaves it was perforated with a number of small holes, made, most probably, for the discharge of arrows in case of an attack. The only entrance was by a small door at the gable end, cut out of the middle piece of timber, twenty-nine and a half inches high, fourteen inches broad, and reaching only eighteen inches above the earth. Before this hole was hung a mat, and on pushing it aside and crawling through, the descent was by a small ladder, made in the form of those used among us. One half of the inside was used as a place of deposite for their dried fish, in which there were large quantities stored away, and which, with a few baskets of berries, formed the provisions for the family; the other half adjoining the door, was for the accommodation of the family. On each side were arranged, near the walls, small beds of mats, placed on little scaffolds or bedsteads raised from eighteen inches to three feet from the ground, and in the middle of the vacant space was the fire, or sometimes two or three fires, where, as, indeed, is usually the case, the house contained three families.

"The inhabitants received us with much kindness, invited us to their houses, and in the evening,

after our camp had been formed, came in great numbers to see us, accompanied by a principal chief and several warriors of the nation below the Great Narrows. We made use of this opportunity to attempt a reconciliation between them and our two chiefs, and to put an end to the war which had disturbed the two nations. On representing to the chiefs the evils which the war inflicted on them, and the wants and privations to which it subjected them, they soon became disposed to be reconciled with each other, and we had some reason to believe in the sincerity of their mutual promises, that the war should no longer be continued, and that in future they would live in peace with each other. On concluding this negotiation, we proceeded to invest the chief with the insignia of command—a medal and some small articles of clothing; after which the violin was produced, and our men danced, to the great delight of the Indians.

"October 25. We walked down with several of the Indians to view the part of the narrows which they represented as most dangerous, and found it very difficult; and as the portage was impracticable with our large canoes, we concluded to carry our most valuable articles by land, and then hazard the passage. We therefore returned to the village, and, having sent some of the party, with our best stores, to make a portage, and placed others on the rocks, to assist, by means of ropes, the canoes that might meet with any difficulty, we began the descent, in the presence of a great number of Indians who had collected to witness the exploit. The channel for three miles is worn through a hard, rough, black rock, from fifty to one hundred yards wide, in which the water swells and

boils in a tremendous manner. The first three canoes escaped very well; the fourth, however, nearly filled with water; and the fifth passed through with taking in only a small quantity of water. At half a mile we had got through the worst part, and, having reloaded our canoes, went on very well for the remaining two and a half miles, except that one of the boats was nearly lost by running against a rock. At the end of this channel, in which the Indians told us they caught as many salmon as they wished, we reached a deep basin or bend of the river towards the right, near the entrance of which were two rocks. We crossed the basin, which has a quiet and gentle current and at the distance of a mile from its commencement, and a little below where the river resumes its channel, reached a rock which divides it. At this place we met our old chiefs, who, when we began the portage, had walked down to a village below, to smoke a pipe of friendship on the renewal of peace. Just after our meeting we saw a chief of the village above, with a party who had been out hunting, and were then crossing the river with their horses on their way home. We landed to smoke with this chief, whom we found to be a bold-looking man, of a pleasing appearance, about fifty years of age, and dressed in a war-jacket, cap, leggins, and moccasins. We presented him with a medal and other small articles, and he gave us some meat, of which he had been able to procure but little; for on his route he met with a war-party of Indians from the Towahnahkiooks, between whom he had a battle. We here smoked a parting pipe with our two faithful friends, the chiefs, who had accompanied us from the head of the river, and who had now each

bought a horse, intending to go home by land. On leaving the rock the current of the river is gentle, but its bed is strewed with a great number or rocks for several miles, when it becomes a beautiful, still stream, about half a mile wide. At five miles from the large bend we came to the mouth of a creek twenty yards in S. S. W. and S. W. for a long distance, and discharging a considerable quantity of water: it is called by the Indians Quenett. We halted below it, under a high point of rocks on the left, and formed a camp on their top to take some celestial observations." * * * "From this rock, the pinnacle of the round mountain covered with snow, which we had seen a short distance below the Forks of the Columbia, and called the Falls or Timm Mountain, was south 43° west, and about thirty-seven miles distant." * * *

"Both above and below the narrows, as well as in them, we had seen a great number of sea-otter, and in the evening a deer was killed, and numerous traces of that animal were observed near the camp." * * *

"October 26. The morning was fine, and we sent six men to hunt, and to collect rosin to pitch their canoes, which, by being frequently hauled over the rocks, had become very leaky. They were also drawn up to dry, and on examination it was found that many of the articles on board of them had become spoiled by being repeatedly wet. We were occupied with the observations necessary to determine our longitude, and with conferences with the Indians, many of whom came on horseback to the opposite shore in the forepart of the day, and showed some anxiety to cross over to us; we did not, however, think

it expedient to send for them, but towards evening two chiefs, with fifteen men, came over in a small canoe. They proved to be the two principal chiefs of the tribes at and above the Falls, and had been absent on a hunting excursion as we passed their residence: each of them, on arriving, made us a present of deer's flesh, and of small white cakes made of roots. Being anxious to ingratiate ourselves with them so as to ensure a friendly reception on our return, we treated them with all the kindness we could show. We accordingly acknowledged the chiefs, giving a medal of the small size, a red silk handkerchief, an armband, a knife, and a piece of paint to each, and small presents to others of the party, with half a deer. These attentions were not lost on them, for they appeared very well pleased. At night a fire was made in the middle of our camp, and as the Indians sat around it, our men danced to the music of the violin, which so delighted them that several resolved to remain with us through the night: the rest crossed the river. All the tribes in this neighborhood were at war with the Snake Indians, whom they described as living on the Towahnahiooks, and whose nearest town was, they said, four day's march from this place, and in the direction nearly southwest." * * *

"October 27. The two chiefs who remained with us were joined by seven Indians, who came in a canoe from below. To these men we were very particular in our attentions, smoking and eating with them; but some of them being tempted, by the sight of our goods that were exposed to dry, to take liberties with them, we were under the necessity of putting an immediate check to it, and this displeas-

ed them so much that they returned down the river in a very ill humour. The two chiefs, however, remained with us till evening, when they crossed the river to their party.

"Before they went we obtained from them a vocabulary of the Echeloot, their native language; and, on comparison, were surprised at its difference from the Eneeshur tongue. In fact, although the Echeloots, who live at the Great Narrows, are not more than six miles from the Eneeshurs, who reside at and above the Great Falls, the two people are separated by a broad distinction of language. The Eneeshures are understood by all the tribes on the Columbia above the Falls; but at that place they meet with the unintelligible language of the Echeloots, which descend the river from thence a considerable distance. Yet this may, after all, be only a difference of dialect, and not a radical difference, since in both languages many words are the same; and the identity cannot be accounted for by supposing that their neighbourhood has interwoven them into their daily conversation, since the same words are equally familiar among all the Flathead bands we have passed. The strange clucking or guttural noise which first struck us, is common to all these tribes. They also flatten the heads of their children in nearly the same manner; but we now begin to observe that the heads of the males, as well as of the other sex, are subjected to this operation; whereas, among the mountains, the custom is confined almost entirely to the females." * * *

"October 28. The morning was cool and windy. Having dried our goods, we were about setting out, when three canoes came from above to visit us, and

two others from below for the same purpose. Among the Indians in these last was one who wore his hair in a queue, and had on a round hat and a sailor's jacket, which he said he had obtained from the people below the Great Rapids, who bought them from the whites."

This interveiw being over, the party again started to descend the river, and after proceeding four miles, landed near a small Indian settlement of eight houses.

"On entering one of them," says the Journal, "we saw a British musket, a cutlass, and several brass tea-kettles, which they seemed to prize very highly. There were also figures of men, birds, and different animals, cut and painted on the boards which form the sides of the room; and though the workmanship of these uncouth figures was very rough, they were as highly esteemed by the Indians as the finest frescoes of more civilized people. This tribe is called the Chilluckittequaw, and their language, although somewhat different from that of the Echeloots, has many of the same words, and is sufficiently intelligible to the neighbouring Indians. We obtained from them a vocabulary; and, after buying five small dogs, some dried berries, and a white bread or cake made of roots, left them." * * *

The wind was so high, however, that after proceeding a mile they were obliged to land, and stop for the day. "We had not been long on shore," proceeds the narrative, "before the canoe, with a man, his wife, and two children, came from below, through the high waves, with a few roots to sell, and soon after we were visited by many Indians from the vil-

lage above, with whom we smoked and conversed. The canoes used by these people were like those already described, built of white cedar or pine, very light, wide in the middle, and tapering towards the ends, the bow being raised, and ornamented with carvings of the heads of animals. As the canoe is the chief vehicle for transportation, the Indians have acquired great dexterity in its management, and guide it safely over the highest waves. They have, among their utensils, bowls and baskets very neatly made of bark and grass, in which they boil their provisions." * * *

"October 29. The morning was cloudy, and the wind from the west; but, as it had abated its violence, we set out at daylight. At the distance of four miles we passed a creek on the right, one mile below which was a village of seven houses on the same side. This was the residence of the principal chief of the Chilluckittequaw nation, who we found was the same between whom and our two chiefs we had made a peace at the Echeloot village. He received us very kindly, and set before us pounded fish, filberts, nuts, the berries of the *sacacommis*, and white bread made of roots. We gave, in return, a bracelet of riband to each of the women of the house, with which they were very much pleased. The chief had several articles, such as scarlet and blue cloth, a sword, a jacket, and a hat, which must have been procured from the whites, and on one side of the room were two wide, split boards, placed together so as to make space for a rude figure of a man cut and painted on them. On pointing to this, and asking what it meant, he said something, of which all that we understood was 'good,' and then stepped up to the painting, and took out his

bow and quiver, which, with some other warlike instruments were kept behind it. He then directed his wife to hand him his medicine-bag, from which he drew out fourteen forefingers, which he told us had belonged to the same number of his enemies, whom he had killed in fighting with the nations to the south-east, in which direction he pointed; alluding, no doubt, to the Snake Indians, the common enemy of the tribes on the Columbia. This bag is usually about two feet in length, and contains roots, pounded dirt, &c., which only the Indian know how to appreciate. It is suspended in the middle of the lodge; and it is considered as a species of sacrilege for any but the owner to touch it. It is an object of religous fear; and, from its supposed sanctity, is the chief place for depositing their medals and more valuable articles. They have likewise small bags, which they preserve in their great medicine-bag, from whence they are taken, and worn around their waists and necks as amulets against any real or imaginary evils. This was the first time we had been apprized that the Indians ever carried from the field any other trophy than the scalp. These fingers were shown with great exultation; and, after an harangue, which we were left to presume was in praise of his exploits, the chief carefully replaced them among the valuable contents of his red medicine-bag. The inhabitants of this village being part of the same nation with those of the village we had passed above, the language of the two was the same, and their houses were of similar form and materials, and calculated to contain about thirty souls. They were unusually hospitable and good-humoured, so that we gave to the place the name of the Friendly village.

We breakfasted here; and after purchasing twelve dogs, four sacks of fish, and a few dried berries, proceeded on our journey. The hills as we passed were high, with steep, rocky sides, with pine and white oak, and an undergrowth of shrubs scattered over them." Four miles farther on they passed the mouth of a small river on the right, which they called Cataract River; and twelve miles beyond this, another stream on the left, to which they gave the name of Labieshe, after one of the party. Here were the first houses which they noticed on the right side of the Columbia. They landed for the night at three Indian huts on the right bank, after having made thirty-two miles.

"On our first arrival," says the Journal, "the inhabitants seemed surprised, but not alarmed, at our appearance; and we soon became intimate by means of smoking, and, what was ever a favourite amusement with the Indians, the music of the violin. They gave us fruit, some roots, and root-bread, and we purchased from them three dogs. The houses of these people were similar to those of the Indians above, and their language the same. Their dress also, consisting of robes made of the skin of the wolf, deer, elk, and wild-cat, was nearly after the same fashion. Their hair was worn in plaits down each shoulder, and round their neck was a strip of skin, with the tail of the animal hanging over the breast. Like the Indians above, they were fond of otter skins, and gave a price for them. We here saw the skin of a mountain sheep, which they said lived among the rocks in the mountains. It was covered with white hair; the wool was long, thick, and coarse, with long, coarse hair on top of the neck, and on the back resembling somewhat

the bristles of a goat. Immediately behind the village was a pond, in which were great numbers of small swan.

The Columbia was here about three fourths of a mile wide, with a gentle current, though occasionally obstructed by rocks. In proceeding the following day they passed a river on the right, sixty yards in width, which, after one of their men, they called Crusatto's River. About two and a half miles below this they came to a rapid, which is called the Great Shoot, of the river, where they found it necessary to terminate their voyage for the day. It became necessary to explore the country to ascertain the best route for a portage, and Captain Clarke started for this purpose, soon after landing. The night obliging him to return after he had proceeded about three miles, he resumed his examination the next morning.

"At the extremity of a basin," says the narrative, "in which was situated the island where we were encamped, several rocks and rocky islands were scattered along the bed of the river. The rocks on each side had fallen down from the mountains, the one on the left being high, and the hill on the right, which was lower having bodily slid into the river, so that the current was here compressed within a space of one hundred and fifty yards. Within this narrow limit it runs for the distance of four hundred yards with great rapidity, swelling over the rocks with a fall of about twenty feet. It then widens to two hundred paces, and the current for a short distance becomes gentle; but a mile and a half farther on, opposite to an old Indian village, it is obstructed by a very bad rapid, where the waves are unusually high, the river being

confined between large rocks, many of which are at the surface of the water."

Following the same route he had taken the day before, two and a half miles below the shoot he struck the river at a point where the Indians commence their portage round the rapids. From this place he sent one of his men up the stream, to ascertain if it were practicable to bring down the canoes by water; while with the other he proceeded farther down (the rapids extending as far as he could see), when at the distance of a mile and a half, in the midst of a dense wood, he came to an ancient burial-place: "it consisted," says the journalist, "of eight vaults, formed of pine or cedar boards closely connected, each about eight feet square and six in height: the top was covered with boards sloping a little, so as to carry off the rain. Their direction was east and west; the door being on the eastern side, partially stopped with wide boards, and decorated with rude pictures of men and animals. On entering, we found in some of them four dead bodies, carefully wrapped in skins tied with cords of grass and bark, and lying on a mat in an east and west direction: the others contained only bones, which were in some of them piled to the height of four feet. On the tops of the vaults, and on poles attached to them, were hung brass kettles and frying-pans with holes in their bottoms, baskets, bowls, sea-shells, skins, pieces of cloth, hair, bags of trinkets and small bones, the offerings of friendship or affection, which a pious veneration had preserved from the ferocity of war, and the more dangerous temptations of individual selfishness. The whole of the walls, as well as the door were ornamented with strange figures cut

and painted on them: and, besides these, there were several wooden images of men, some of them so old and decayed as to have almost lost their shape, all placed against the sides of the vaults. Neither these images, nor those in the houses we had lately visited, appeared to be at all the object of adoration. In this place they were most probably intended for resemblances of the deceased; and those we had observed in the houses occupied the most conspicuous part, but were treated more like ornaments than objects of worship. Near the vaults that were standing were the remains of others, completely rotted and covered with moss; and as they were formed of the most durable pine and cedar timber, it would appear that this retired spot had long been a depository for the dead."

After proceeding down the river somewhat farther, and carefully examining the country, Captain Clarke returned to the encampment.

"We had an opportunity to-day," says the Journal, "of witnessing the hardihood of the Indians of the neighbouring village. One of our men shot a goose, which fell into the river, and was floating rapidly towards the Great Shoot, when an Indian plunged in after it. The entire mass of the waters of the Columbia, rushing onward to descend the narrow channel hurried the bird along with great rapidity. The Indian followed it fearlessly to within one hundred and fifty feet of the rocks, where he would inevitably have been dashed to pieces; when, seizing his prey, he turned round and swam to the shore with the utmost composure. We very willingly relinquished our right to the game in favor of one who had thus saved it at the imminent hazard of his life: he

immediately set to work and picked off about half the feathers, and then, without opening it, ran a stick through it, and carried it off to roast."

The next day, November 1, following the example of some Indians who preceded them, they transported their baggage and small canoe by land to the foot of the shoot; and the four large canoes they managed to slide along on poles extended from one rock to another occasionally availing themselves of small streams at the side of the river. They now re-embarked on board the boats, and, making their way with no little difficulty through other less formidable rapids, at the distance of seven miles from the head of the Great Shoot they landed for the night.

"The meridian altitude of to-day," proceeds the Journal, "gave us the latitude of 45° 44′ 3″. As we passed a village of four houses, we stopped to visit them. They were similar to those already described, but larger, from thirty-five to fifty feet long, and thirty feet wide, being sunk in the ground about six feet, and raised the same height above. Their beds were raised about four feet and a half above the floor, and the ascent to them was by a newly-painted ladder, with which every family is provided, and under them were stored their dried fish, while the space between the part of the beds on which they lay and the wall of the house was occupied by nuts, roots, berries, and other provisions, spread on mats. The fire place was about eight feet long and six feet wide, sunk a foot below the floor, and secured by a frame, with mats placed around for the family to sit on. In all of the houses were images of men of different shapes, placed as ornaments in the parts where they would be most seen. The in-

habitants gave us nuts, berries, and some dried fish to eat; and we purchased, among other articles, a hat made after their own taste, and such as they wear, without a brim. They asked high prices for all that they sold, observing that the whites below paid dear for whatever they carried to them. We could not learn precisely the nature of the trade carried on by the Indians with the inhabitants below. But, as their knowledge of the whites seemed to be very imperfect, and the only articles which they took to market, such as pounded fish, bear-grass, and roots, could not be objects of much foreign traffic, the intercourse appeared to be an intermediate trade with the natives near the mouth of the Columbia; from whom they obtained, in exchange for their fish, roots, and bear-grass, blue and white beads, copper tea-kettles, brass armbands, some scarlet and blue robes, and a few articles of second-hand European clothing. But their great object is to obtain beads: an article which holds the first place in their ideas of value, and to procure which they will sacrifice their last garment and last mouthful of food. Independently of their fondness for them as an ornament, these beads are employed as a medium of trade, by which they obtain from the Indians still higher up the river, robes, skins, root-bread bear-grass, &c. These, in turn, make use of them to procure from the Indians in the Rocky Mountains bear-grass, *pachcco*, roots, robes, &c.

"These Indians were rather below the common size, with high cheek-bones, their noses pierced, and, when in full dress, were ornamented with a tapering piece of white shell or wampum about two inches long. Their eyes were exceedingly sore and weak,

many of them having only a single eye, and some were perfectly blind. Their teeth had prematurely decayed, and in many instances were altogether worn away. Their general health, however, seemed to be good, the only disorder we remarked among them being tumours in different parts of the body. The women were small, and homely in their appearance; their legs much swelled and their knees remarkably large; deformities which are no doubt owing to the manner in which they sit on their hams. They go nearly naked, having only a piece of leather tied around the breast, falling thence nearly as low as the waist, with a small robe about three feet square, and a piece of leather tied between the legs. Their hair was suffered to hang loose in every direction; and in their persons, as well as in their cookery, they were filthy to a most disgusting degree. We here observed that the women universally have their heads flattened; and in many of the villages we have recently seen the female children undergo the operation."

CHAPTER IV.

First Appearance of Tide-water in the Coulmbia River.—The Quicksand River.—Some Account of the Skilloot Indians.—The Party pass the Coweliske River.—Some Account of the Wahkiacum Indians.—Arrival on the Borders of the Pacific.—Disagreeable and Critical Situation of the Party when first encamped.—Their Distress from incessant Torrents of Rain.—Exposed for thirty Days to this drenching Deluge, during which Time their Provisions are spoiled, and most of their few Articles of Merchandise destroyed.—Distress of the Party.—Adventure of Shannon, and his Danger from the Wahkiacums.—Difficulty of finding a Place suitable for a permanent Encampment.—Visited by several Indians of different Tribes on whom Medals were bestowed.

"NOVEMBER 2. We now examined the rapid below more particularly, and the danger appearing to be too great for the loaded canoes, all those who could not swim were sent with the baggage by land. The canoes then passed safely down, and were reloaded. At the foot of the rapid we took a meridian altitude, and found our latitude to be 59° 45′ 45″."

This rapid forms the last of the descents of the Columbia; and immediately below it the river widens, and tidewater commences. Shortly after starting they passed an island three miles in length and to which, from that plant being seen on it in great abundance, they gave the name of Strawberry Island. Directly beyond were three small islands, and in the meadow to the right, at some distance from the hills

in the background was a single perpendicular rock, which they judged to be not less than eight hundred feet high, and four hundred yards at the base, which they called Beacon Rock. A little farther on they found the river a mile in breadth, and double this breadth four miles beyond. After making twenty-nine miles from the foot of the Great Shoot, they halted for the night at a point where the river was two and a half miles wide. The character of the country they had passed through during the day was very different from that they had lately been accustomed to, the hills being thickly covered with timber, chiefly of the pine species. The tide rose at their encampment about nine inches, and they saw great numbers of water-fowl, such as swan, geese, ducks of various kinds, gulls, &c.

The next day, November 3d, they set off in company with some Indians who had joined them the evening before. At the distance of three miles they passed a river on the left, to which, from the quantity of sand it bears along with it, they gave the name of Quicksand River. So great, indeed, was the quantity it had discharged into the Columbia, that that river was compressed to the width of half a mile, and the whole force of the current thrown against the right shore. Opposite to this was a large creek, which they called Seaï River. The mountain which they had supposed to be the Mount Hood of Vancouver, now bore S. 85° E., about forty-seven miles distant. About three miles farther on they passed the lower mouth of Quicksand River, opposite to which was another large creek, and near it the head of an island three miles and a half in extent; and a half a mile beyond it

was another island, which they called Diamond Island, opposite to which they encamped, having made but thirteen miles' distance. Here they met with some Indians ascending the river, who stated that they had seen three vessels at its mouth.

"Below Quicksand River," says the Journal, "the country is low, rich, and thickly wooded on each side of the Columbia; the islands have less timber, and on them are numerous ponds, near which were vast quantities of fowl, such as swan, geese, brant, cranes, storks, white gulls, cormorants, and plover. The river is wide, and contains a great number of sea-otters. In the evening the hunters brought in game for a sumptuous supper."

In continuing their descent the next day, they found Diamond Island to be six miles in length and three broad; and near its termination were two other islands. "Just below the last of these," proceeds the narrative, "We landed on the left bank of the river, at a village of twenty-five houses, all of which were thatched with straw, and built of bark except one, which was about fifty feet long, and constructed of boards, in the form of those higher up the river, from which it differed, however, in being completely above ground, and covered with broad, split boards. This village contained about two hundred men of the Skilloot nation, who seemed well provided with canoes, of which there were at least fifty-two, and some of them very large, drawn up in front of the village. On landing, we found an Indian from above, who had left us this morning, and who now invited us into a lodge of which he appeared to be part owner. Here he treated us with a root, round in shape, and about the size of a small

Irish potato, which they call *wappatoo*: it is the common arrow-head or *sagittifolia* so much cultivated by the Chinese, and, when roasted in the embers till it becomes soft, has an agreeable taste, and is a very good substitute for bread. After purchasing some of this root we resumed our journey, and at seven miles' distance came to the head of a large island near the left bank. On the right shore was a fine open prairie for about a mile, back of which the country rises, and is well supplied with timber, such as white oak, pine of different kinds, wild crab, and several species of undergrowth, while along the borders of the river there were only a few cottonwood and ash trees. In this prairie were also signs of deer and elk.

"When we landed for dinner a number of Indians came down, for the purpose, as we supposed, of paying us a friendly visit, as they had put on their finest dresses. In addition to their usual covering, they had scarlet and blue blankets, sailors' jackets and trowsers, shirts, and hats. They had all of them either war-axes, spears, and bows and arrows, or muskets and pistoles, with tin powder-flasks. We smoked with them, and endeavoured to show them every attention, but soon found them very assuming and disagreeable companions. While we were eating, they stole the pipe with which they were smoking, and a great coat of one of the men. We immediately searched them all and found the coat stuffed under the root of a tree near where they were sitting; but the pipe we could not recover. Finding us discontended with them, and determined not to suffer any imposition, they showed their displeasure in the only way they dared, by returning in ill humour to their village. We then pro-

ceeded, and soon met two canoes, with twelve men of the same Skilloot nation, who were on their way from below. The larger of the canoes was ornamented with figures of a bear in the bow and a man in the stern, both nearly as large as life, both made of painted wood, and very neatly fastened to the boat. In the same canoe were two Indians gaudily dressed, and with round hats. This circumstance induced us to give the name of Image Canoe to the large island the lower end of which we were now passing, at the distance of nine miles from its head. We had seen two smaller islands to the right, and three more near its lower extremity." * * * "The river was now about a mile and a half in width, with a gentle current, and the bottoms extensive and low, but not subject to be overflowed. Three miles below Image Canoe Island we came to four large houses on the left side; here we had a full view of the mountain which we had first seen from the Muscleshell Rapid on the 19th of October, and which we now found to be, in fact, the Mount St. Helen of Vancouver. It bore north 25° east, about ninety miles distant, rose in the form of a sugar-loaf to a very great height, and was covered with snow. A mile lower we passed a single house on the left, and another on the right. The Indians had now learned so much of us that their curiosity was without any mixture of fear, and their visits became very frequent and troublesome. We therefore continued on till after night, in hopes of getting rid of them; but, after passing a village on each side, which, on account of the lateness of the hour, we could only see indistinctly, we found there was no escaping from their importunities. We accordingly landed at the distance

of seven miles below Image-Canoe Island, and encamped near a single house on the right, having made during the day twenty-nine miles.

"The Skilloots that we passed to-day speak a language somewhat different from that of the Echeloots or Chilluckittequaws near the long narrows. Their dress, however, is similar, except that the Skilloots possess more articles procured from the white traders; and there is this farther difference between them, that the Skilloots, both males and females, have the head flattened. Their principal food is fish, *wappatoo* roots, and some elk and deer, in killing which with arrows they seem to be very expert; for during the short time we remained at the village, three deer were brought in. We also observed there a tame *blaireau*.

"As soon as we landed we were visited by two canoes loaded with Indians, from whom we purchased a few roots. The grounds along the river continued low and rich, and among the shrubs were large quantities of vines resembling the raspberry. On the right, the low grounds were terminated, at the distance of five miles, by a range of high hills covered with tall timber, and running southeast and northwest. The game, as usual, was very abundant; and, among other birds, we observed some white geese, with a part of their wings black."

Early the next morning they resumed their voyage, passing several islands in the course of the day, the river alternately widening and contracting, and the hills sometimes retiring from, and at others approaching its banks. They stopped for the night at the distance of thirty-two miles from their last encampment. "Before landing," proceeds the Journal, "we

met two canoes, the largest of which had at the bow the image of a bear, and that of a man on the stern; there were twenty-six Indians on board, but they proceeded upward, and we were left, for the first time since we reached the waters of the Columbia, without any of the natives with us during the night. Besides other game we killed a grouse much larger than the common kind, and observed along the shore a number of striped snakes. The river is here deep, and about a mile and a half in width. Here, too, the ridge of low mountains, running northwest and southeast, crosses the river, and forms the western boundary of the plain through which we had just passed. This great plain or valley begins above the mouth of Quicksand River, and is about sixty miles long in a straight line, while on the right and left it extends to a great distance: it is a fertile and delightful country, shaded by thick groves of tall timber, and watered by small ponds on both sides of the river. The soil is rich, and capable of any species of culture; but in the present condition of the Indians, its chief production is the *wappatoo* root, which grows spontaneously and exclusively in this region. Sheltered as it is on both sides, the temperature is much milder than that of the surrounding country; for even at this season of the year we observed but very little appearance of frost. It is inhabited by numerous tribes of Indians, who either reside in it permanently, or visit its waters in quest of fish and *wappatoo* roots. We gave it the name of the Columbia Valley.

"November 6. The morning was cool and rainy. We proceeded at an early hour, between high hills on both sides of the river, till at the distance of four

miles we came to two tents of Indians in a small plain on the left, where the hills on the right recede a few miles, and a long narrow island stretches along the right shore. Behind this island is the mouth of a large river, a hundred and fifty yards wide, called by the Indians Coweliske. We halted on the island for dinner, but the redwood and green briers were so interwoven with the pine, alder ash, a species of beech, and other trees, that the woods formed a thicket which our hunters could not penetrate. Below the mouth of the Cowesliske a very remarkable knob rises from the water's edge to the height of eighty feet, being two hundred paces round the base; and as it is in a low part of the island, and at some distance from the high grounds, its appearance is very singular. On setting out after dinner we overtook two canoes going down to trade. One of the Indians who spoke a few words of English, mentioned that the principal person who traded with them was a Mr. Haley; and he showed us a bow of iron, and several other things, which he said he had given him. Nine miles below Coweliske River is a creek on the same side; and between them three smaller islands, one on the left shore, the other about the middle of the river, and a third near the lower end of the long narrow island, and opposite a high cliff of black rocks on the left, sixteen miles from our last nights' encampment. Here we were overtaken by some Indians from the two tents we had passed in the morning, from whom we purchased *wappatoo* roots, salmon, trout, and two beaver-skins, for which last we gave five small fish-hooks."

Here the mountains, which had been high and

rugged on the left, retired from the river, as had the hills on the right, since leaving the Coweliske, and a beautiful plain was spread out before them. They met with several islands on their way, and, having, at the distance of five miles, come to the termination of the plain, they proceeded for eight miles through a hilly country, and encamped for the night after having made twenty-nine miles.

"November 7. The morning," proceeds the narrative, "was rainy, and the fog so thick that we could not see across the river. We observed, however, opposite to our camp, the upper point of an island, between which and the steep hills on the right we proceeded for five miles. Three miles lower was the beginning of an island, separated from the right shore by a narrow channel: down this we proceeded, under the direction of some Indians whom we had just met going up the river, and who returned in order to show us their village. It consisted of four houses only, situated on this channel, behind several marshy islands formed by two small creeks. On our arrival they gave us some fish, and we afterwards purchased *wappatoo* roots, fish, three dogs, and two otter-skins, for which we gave fish-hooks chiefly, that being an article which they are very anxious to obtain.

"These people seemed to be of a different nation from those we had just passed: they were low in stature, ill-shaped, and all had their heads flattened. They called themselves Wahkiacum, and their language differed from that of the tribes above, with whom they trade for *wappatoo* roots. The houses, too, were built in a different style, being raised entirely above ground, with the eaves about five feet high, and the door at the

corner. Near the end opposite to the door was a single fireplace, round which were the beds, raised four feet from the floor of earth: over the fire were hung fresh fish, and when dried they are stowed away with the *wappatoo* roots under the beds. The dress of the men was like that of the people above; but the women were clad in a peculiar manner, the robe not reaching lower than the hip, and the body being covered in cold weather by a sort of corset of fur, curiously plaited, and reaching from the arms to the hip: added to this was a sort of petticoat, or, rather, tissue of white cedar bark, bruised or broken into small strands, and woven into a girdle by several cords of the same material. Being tied round the middle, these strands hang down as low as the knee in front, and to the middle of the leg behind: sometimes the tissue consists of strings of silk-grass, twisted and knotted at the end.

"After remaining with them about an hour, we proceeded down the channel with an Indian dressed in a sailor's jacket for our pilot; and, on reaching the main channel, were visited by some Indians, who have a temporary residence on a marshy island in the middle of the river, where there are great numbers of water-fowl. Here the mountainous country again approaches the river on the left, and a higher mountain is perceived towards the southwest. At a distance of twenty miles from our camp, we halted at a village of Wahkiacums, consisting of seven ill-looking houses, built in the same form with those above, and situated at the foot of the high hills on the right, behind two small marshy islands. We merely stopped to purchase some food and two beaver skins, and then proceeded. Opposite to these islands the hills on the left retire, and the

river widens into a kind of bay, crowded with low islands, subject to be overflowed occasionally by the tide. We had not gone far from this village when, the fog suddenly clearing away, we were at last presented with the glorious sight of the ocean—that ocean, the object of all our labors, the reward of all our anxieties. This animating sight exhilarated the spirits of all the party, who were still more delighted on hearing the distant roar of the breakers. We went on with great cheerfulness along the high, mountainous country which bordered the right bank: the shore, however, was so bold and rocky, that we could not, until at a distance of fourteen miles from the last village, find any spot fit for an encampment. Having made during the day thirty-four miles, we now spread our mats on the ground, and passed the night in the rain. Here we were joined by our small canoe, which had been separated from us during the fog this morning. Two Indians from the last village also accompanied us to the camp; but, having detected them in stealing a knife, they were sent off.

"November 8. It rained this morning; and, having changed our clothing, which had been wet by yesterday's rain, we set out at nine o'clock. Immediately opposite our camp was a rock, at a distance of a mile in the river, about twenty feet in diameter and fifty in height, and towards the southwest some high mountains, one of which was covered with snow at the top. We proceeded past several low islands in the bend or bay of the river to the left, which was here five or six miles wide. On the right side we passed an old village, and then, at the distance of three miles, entered an inlet or niche, about six miles across, and making a deep

bend of nearly five miles into the hills on the right shore, where it receives the waters of several creeks. We coasted along this inlet, which, from its little depth, we called Shallow Bay, and at the bottom of it stopped to dine, near the remains of an old village, from which, however, we kept at a cautious distance, as, like all these places, it was occupied by a plentiful stock of fleas. At this place we observed a number of fowl, among which we killed a goose, and two ducks exactly resembling in appearance and flavor the canvass-back duck of the Susquehanna. After dinner we took advantage of the returning tide to go on about three miles to a point on the right, eight miles distant from our camp; but here the waves ran so high, and dashed about our canoes so much, that several of the men became seasick. It was therefore judged imprudent to proceed in the present state of the weather, and we landed at the point. Our situation here was extremely uncomfortable: the high hills jutted in so closely that there was not room for us to lie level, nor to secure our baggage from the tide, and the water of the river was too salt to be used; but the waves increasing so much that we could not move from the spot with safety, we fixed ourselves on the beach left by the ebb-tide, and, raising the baggage on poles, passed a disagreeable night, the rain during the day having wet us completely, as, indeed, we had been for some days past.

"November 9. Fortunately, the tide did not rise as high as our camp during the night; but, being accompanied by high winds from the south, the canoes, which we could not place beyond its reach, were filled with water, and saved with much difficulty: our posi-

tion was exceedingly disagreeable; but, as it was impossible to move from it, we waited for a change of weather. It rained, however, during the whole day, and at two o'clock in the afternoon the flood-tide came in, accompanied by a high wind from the south, which at about four o'clock shifted to the southwest, and blew almost a gale directly from the sea. Immense waves now broke over the place where we were, and large trees, some of them five or six feet through, which had been lodged on the point, drifted over our camp, so that the utmost vigilance of every man could scarcely save the canoes from being crushed to pieces. We remained in the water, and were drenched with rain during the rest of the day, our only sustenance being some dried fish and the rain-water which we caught. Yet, though wet and cold, and some of them sick from using salt-water, the men were cheerful, and full of anxiety to see more of the ocean. The rain continued all night, and the following morning,

"November 10, the wind lulling, and the waves not being so high, we loaded our canoes and proceeded. The mountains on the right are here high, covered with timber, chiefly pine, and descend with a bold and rocky shore to the water. We went through a deep niche and several inlets on the right, while on the opposite side was a large bay, above which the hills are close on the river. At the distance of ten miles the wind rose from the northwest, and the waves became so high that we were forced to return two miles for a place where we could unload with safety. Here we landed at the mouth of a small run, and, having placed our baggage on a pile of drifted logs, waited until low water. The river then appear-

ing more calm, we started again; but, after going a mile, found the waves too turbulent for our canoes, and were obliged to put to shore. Here we landed the baggage and, having placed it on a rock above the reach of the tide, encamped on some drift logs, which formed the only place where we could lie, the hills rising steep over our heads to the height of five hundred feet. All our baggage, as well as ourselves, was thoroughly wet with the rain, which did not cease during the day: it continued, indeed, violently through the night, in the course of which the tide reached the logs on which we lay and set them afloat.

"November 11. The wind was still high from the southwest, and drove the waves against the shore with great fury: the rain, too, fell in torrents, and not only drenched us to the skin, but loosened the stones on the hill sides, so that they came rolling down upon us. In this comfortless condition we remained all day, wet and cold, and with nothing but dried fish to satisfy our hunger; the canoes at the mercy of the waves at one place, the baggage in another, and the men scattered on floating logs, or sheltering themselves in the crevices of the rocks and hill sides. A hunter was despatched in the hope of finding some game; but the hills were so steep, and so covered with undergrowth and fallen timber, that he could not proceed, and was forced to return. About twelve o'clock we were visited by five Indians in a canoe. They came from the opposite side of the river, above where we were, and their language much resembled that of the Wahkiacums: they called themselves Cathlamahs. In person they were small, ill made and badly clothed; though one of them had on a sailor's jacket and pantaloons, which, as he ex-

plained by signs, he had received from the whites below the point. We purchased from them thirteen red charr, a fish which we found very excellent. After some time they went on board their boat, and crossed the river, which is here five miles wide, through a very heavy sea.

"November 12. About three o'clock a tremendous gale of wind arose, accompanied with lightning, thunder, and hail: at six it lightened up for a short time, but a violent rain soon began, and lasted through the day. During the storm, one of our boats, secured by being sunk with great quantities of stone, got loose, but, drifting against a rock, was recovered without having received much injury. Our situation now became much more dangerous, for the waves were driven with fury against the rocks and trees, which till now had afforded us refuge: we therefore took advantage of the low tide, and moved about half a mile round a point to a small brook, which we had not observed before on account of the thick bushes and driftwood which concealed its mouth. Here we were more safe, but still cold and wet; our clothes and bedding rotten as well as wet, our baggage at a distance, and the canoes, our only means of escape from this place, at the mercy of the waves. Still, we continued to enjoy good health, and even had the luxury of feasting on some salmon and three salmon trout which we caught in the brook. Three of the men attempted to go round a point in our small Indian canoe, but the high waves rendered her quite unmanageable, these boats requiring the seamanship of the natives to make them live in so rough a sea.

"November 13. During the night we had short in-

tervals of fair weather, but it began to rain in the morning, and continued through the day. In order to obtain a view of the country below, Captain Clarke followed the course of the brook, and with much fatigue, and after walking three miles, ascended the first spur of the mountains. The whole lower country he found covered with almost impenetrable thickets of small pine, with which is mixed a species of plant resembling arrow-wood, twelve or fifteen feet high, with a thorny stem, almost interwoven with each other, and scattered among the fern and fallen timber: there is also a red berry, somewhat like the Solomon's seal, which is called by the natives *solme*, and used as an article of diet. This thick growth rendered travelling almost impossible, and it was rendered still more fatiguing by the abruptness of the mountain, which was so steep as to oblige him to draw himself up by means of the bushes. The timber on the hills is chiefly of a large, tall species of pine, many of the trees eight or ten feet in diameter at the stump, and rising sometimes more than one hundred feet in height. The hail which fell two nights before was still to be seen on the mountains: there was no game, and no marks of any, except some old tracks of elk. The cloudy weather prevented his seeing to any distance, and he therefore returned to camp, and sent three men in the Indian canoe to try if they could double the point, and find some safer harbor for our boats. At every flood-tide the sea broke in great swells against the rocks, and drifted the trees against our establishment, so as to render it very insecure.

"November 14. It had rained without intermission during the night, and continued to through the day: the wind, too, was very high, and one of our canoes

much injured by being driven against the rocks. Five Indians from below came to us in a canoe, and three of them landed, and informed us that they had seen the men sent down yesterday. Fortunately, at this moment one of the men arrived, and told us that these very Indians had stolen his gig and basket; we therefore ordered the two women, who remained in the canoe, to restore them; but this they refused to do till we threatened to shoot them, when they gave back the articles, and we commanded them to leave us. They were of the Wahkiacum nation. The man now informed us that they had gone round the point as far as the high sea would suffer them in the canoe, and then landed; that in the night he had separated from his companions, who had proceeded farther down; and that, at no great distance from where we were, was a beautiful sand beach and a good harbour. Captain Lewis determined to examine more minutely the lower part of the bay, and, embarking in one of the large canoes, was put on shore at the point, whence he proceeded by land with four men, and the canoe returned nearly filled with water.

"November 15. It continued raining all night, but in the morning the weather became calm and fair. We began, therefore, to prepare for setting out; but before we were ready, a high wind sprang up from the south-east, and obliged us to remain. The sun shone until one o'clock, and we were thus enabled to dry our bedding and examine our baggage. The rain, which had continued for the last ten days without any interval of more than two hours, had completely wet all our merchandise, spoiled some of our fish, destroyed the robes, and rotted nearly one half of our few remaining

articles of clothing, particularly the leather dresses. About three o'clock the wind fell, and we instantly loaded the canoes, and left the miserable spot to which we had been confined the last six days. On turning the point we came to the sand beach, through which runs a small stream from the hills, at the mouth of which was an ancient village of thirty-six houses, without any inhabitants at the time except fleas. Here we met Shannon, who had been sent back to us by Captain Lewis. The day Shannon left us in the canoe, he and Willard proceeded on till they met a party of twenty Indians, who, not having heard of us, did not know who they were; but they behaved with great civility—so great, indeed, and seemed so anxious that our men should accompany them towards the sea, that their suspicions were excited, and they declined going. The Indians, however, would not leave them; and the men, becoming confirmed in their suspicions, and fearful, if they went into the woods to sleep, that they would be cut to pieces in the night, thought it best to remain with the Indians: they therefore made a fire, and after talking with them to a late hour, laid down with their rifles under their heads. When they awoke they found that the Indians had stolen and concealed their arms; and having demanded them in vain, Shannon seized a club, and was about assaulting one of the Indians whom he suspected to be the thief, when another of them began to load his fowling-piece with the intention of shooting him. He therefore stopped, and explained to them by signs, that if they did not give up the guns, a large party would come down the river before the sun rose to a certain height, and put every one of them to death. Fortunately, Captain Lewis and his

party appeared at this very time, and the terrified Indians immediately brought the guns, and five of them came in with Shannon. To these men we declared that, if ever any of their nation stole anything from us, he should be instantly shot. They resided to the north of this place, and spoke a language different from that of the people higher up the river. It was now apparent that the sea was at all times too rough for us to proceed farther down the bay by water: we therefore landed, and, having chosen the best spot we could, made our camp of boards from the old village. We were now comfortably situated; and, being visited by four Wahkiacums with *wappatoo* roots, were enabled to make an agreeable addition to our food.

"November 16. The morning was clear and pleasant. We therefore put out all our baggage to dry, and sent several of the party to hunt. Our camp was in full view of the ocean, on the bay laid down by Vancouver, which we distinguished by the name of Haley's Bay, from a trader who visits the Indians here, and is a great favourite among them. The meridian altitude of this day gave 46° 19′ 11.7″ as our latitude. The wind was strong from the southwest, and the waves very high, yet the Indians were passing up and down the bay in canoes, and several of them encamped near us. We smoked with them, but, after our recent experience of their thievish disposition, treated them with caution." * * * 'The hunters brought in two deer, a crane, some geese and ducks, and several brant, three of which were white, except a part of the wing, which was black, and they were much larger than the gray brant.

"November 17. A fair, cool morning, and easterly

wind. The tide rises at this place eight feet six inches.

"About one o'clock Captain Lewis returned, after having coasted down Haley's Bay to Cape Disappointment, and some distance to the north, along the sea-coast. He was followed by several Chinnooks, among whom were the principal chief and his family. They made us a present of a boiled root very much like the common liqourice in taste and size, called *cul-whamo;* and in return we gave them articles of double its value. We now learned, however, the danger of accepting anything from them, since nothing given in payment, even though ten times more valuable, would satisfy them. We were chiefly occupied in hunting, and were able to procure three deer, four brant, and two ducks; and also saw some signs of elk. Captain Clarke now prepared for an excursion down the bay, and accordingly started,

"November 18, at daylight, accompanied by eleven men. He proceeded along the beach one mile to a point of rocks about forty feet high, where the hills retired leaving a wide beach, and a number of ponds covered with water-fowl, between which and the mountain was a narrow bottom covered with alder and small balsam trees. Seven miles from the rocks was the entrance of a creek, or rather drain from the ponds and hills, where was a cabin of Chinnooks. The cabin contained some children and four women. They were taken across the creek in a canoe by two squaws, to each of whom they gave a fish-hook, and then, coasting along the bay, passed at two miles the low bluff of a small hill, below which were the ruins of some old huts, and close to it the remains

of a whale. The country was low, open, and marshy, interspered with some high pine and with a thick undergrowth. Five miles from the creek they came to a stream, forty yards wide at low water, which they called Chinnook River. The hills up this river and towards the bay were not high, but very thickly covered with large pine of several species."

Proceeding along the shore, they came to a deep bend, appearing to afford a good harbour, and here the natives told them that European vessels usually anchored. About two miles farther on they reached Cape Disappointment, "an elevated circular knob," says the Journal, "rising with a steep ascent one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty feet above the water, formed like the whole shore of the bay, as well as of the seacoast, and covered with thick timber on the inner side, but open and grassy on the exposure next to the sea. From this cape a high point of land bears south 20° west, about twenty-five miles distant. In the range between these two eminences is the opposite point of the bay, a very low ground, which has been variously called Cape Rond by La Perouse, and Point Adams by Vancouver. The water, for a great distance off the mouth of the river, appears very shallow, and within the mouth, nearest to Point Adams, is a large sand-bar, almost covered at high tide." * * *

"November 19. In the evening it began to rain, and continued till eleven o'clock. Two hunters were sent out in the morning to kill something for breakfast, and the rest of the party, after drying their blankets, soon followed. At three miles they overtook the hunters, and breakfasted on a small deer which

they had been fortunate enough to kill. This, like all those that we saw on this coast, was much darker than our common deer. Their bodies, too, are deeper, their legs shorter, and their eyes larger. The branches of the horns are similar, but the upper part of the tail is black, from the root to the end, and they do not leap, but jump like a sheep frightened." * * *

Continuing along five miles farther, they reached a point of high land, below which a sandy point extended in a direction north 19° west, to another high point twenty miles distant. To this they gave the name of Point Lewis. They proceeded four miles farther along the sandy beach to a small pine-tree, on which Captain Clarke marked his name, with the year and day, and then set out to return to the camp, where they arrived the following day, having met a large number of Chinnooks coming from it.

"November 21. The morning was cloudy, and from noon till night it rained. The wind, too, was high from the southeast, and the sea so rough that the water reached our camp. Most of the Chinnooks returned home, but we were visited in the course of the day by people of different bands in the neighbourhood, among whom were the Chiltz, a nation residing on the seacoast near Point Lewis, and the Clatsops, who live immediately opposite, on the south side of the Columbia. A chief from the grand rapid also came to see us, and we gave him a medal. To each of our visiters we made a present of a small piece of riband, and purchased some cranberries, and some articles of their manufacture, such as mats and household furniture, for all which we paid high prices." * * *

CHAPTER V.

Extravagant Passion of the Natives for blue Beads.—The Party in Search of a suitable Place for Winter-quarters.—Suffering from the Deluges of Rain.—Visits of the Indians.—Return of Captain Lewis, who reported that he had found a suitable Place for Wintering.—Captain Clarke goes with a Party to find a Place suitable for the Manufacture of Salt.—He is hospitably entertained by the Clatsops.—This Tribe addicted to Gambling.—Sickness of some of the Party, occasioned by the incessant Rains.—They form, notwithstanding, a permanent Encampment for their Winter-quarters.

'NOVEMBER 22. It rained during the whole night, and about daylight a tremenduous gale of wind rose from the S. S. E., and continued through the day with great violence. The sea ran so high that the water came into our camp, which the rain prevents us from leaving. We purchased from the old squaw, for armbands and rings, a few *wappatoo* roots, on which we subsisted. They are nearly equal in flavor to the Irish potato, and afford a very good substitute for bread. The bad weather drove several Indians to our camp, but they were still under the terrors of the threat which we made on first seeing them, and behaved with the greatest decency.

"November 23. The rain continued through the night, and the morning was calm and cloudy. The hunters were sent out, and killed three deer, four brant, and three ducks. Towards evening seven Clatsops

came over in a canoe, with two skins of the sea-otter. To this article they had attached an extravagant value; and their demands for it were so high, that we were fearful it would too much reduce our small stock of merchandise, on which we had to depend for subsistence on our return, to venture on purchasing it. To ascertain, however, their ideas as to the value of different objects, we offered for one of these skins a watch, a handkerchief, an American dollar, and a bunch of red beads; but neither the curious mechanism of the watch, nor even the red beads, could tempt the owner: he refused the offer, but asked for *tiacomoshack*, or chief beads, the most common sort of coarse blue coloured beads, the article beyond all price in their estimation. Of these blue beads we had but a few, and therefore reserved them for more necessitous circumstances".

* * * "Having now examined the coast, it became necessary to decide on a spot for our winter-quarters. The people of the country subsisted chiefly on dried fish and roots; but of these there did not seem to be a sufficient quantity for our support, even were we able to purchase them; and the extravagant prices, as well as our small stock of merchandise, forbade us to depend on that resource. We had therefore to rely for subsistence on our arms, and to be guided in the choice of our residence by the abundance of game which any particular spot might offer. The Indians said that the deer were most numerous some distance above, on the river, but that the country on the opposite side of the bay was better supplied with elk, an animal much larger, and more easily killed than the deer, with a skin better fitted for clothing, and the

meat of which is more nutritive during the winter, when they are both poor. The climate, too, was obviously much milder here than above the first range of mountains, for the Indians were thinly clad, and said they had little snow: indeed, since our arrival the weather had been very warm, and sometimes disagreeably so; and dressed, as we were, altogether in leather, the cold would be very unpleasant, if not injurious. The neighbourhood of the sea was moreover recommended by the facility it afforded of supplying ourselves with salt, and the chance of meeting some of the trading vessels, who were expected in about three months, and from whom we might procure a fresh supply of trinkets for our route homeward. These considerations induced us to determine on visiting the opposite side of the bay, and if there was an appearance of much game, to establish ourselves there for the winter."

Having come to this determination, they proceeded, as soon as the weather would permit, to put it into execution. On the 26th they crossed the river, and landed three miles below a point, to which they gave the name of Point Samuel. They proceeded along the shore as far as they could this day, and the next morning "we came," says the journalist, "to a very remarkable knob of land, projecting about a mile and a half towards Shallow Bay, and about four miles round, while the neck of land which connects it to the main shore is not more than fifty yards wide. We went round this projection, which we named Point William; but the waves then became so high that we could not venture any farther, and therefore landed on a beautiful shore of pebbles of various colours, and encamped near an old Indian hut on the isthmus."

* * * "It had rained hard during the whole day, continued all the night, and in the morning,

"November 28, began more violently attended with a high wind from the southwest. It was now impossible to proceed on the rough sea. We therefore sent several men to hunt, and the rest of us remained during the day in a situation the most cheerless and uncomfortable. On this little neck of land we were exposed with a little miserable covering, which did not deserve the name of a shelter, to the violence of the winds; all our bedding and stores, as well as our bodies, being completely wet, our clothing rotting with constant exposure, and having no food except the dried fish obtained from the falls, to which we were again reduced. The hunters all returned hungry and drenched with rain, having seen neither deer nor elk, and the swan and brant were too shy to be approached. At noon the wind shifted to the northwest, and blew with such tremendous fury that many trees were thrown down near us." * * *

The rain continued through the next day, but the weather cleared on the morning of the 30th, and the day was spent in drying their baggage, and in endeavouring to procure some game. Captain Lewis, with five men, proceeded in an Indian canoe down a small bay below, in the hope of finding elk. "Several of the men," proceeds the narrative, "complained of disorders in their bowels, which could be ascribed only to their diet of pounded fish mixed with salt-water; and they are therefore directed to use for that purpose the fresh water above the point. The hunters had seen three elk, but could not obtain any of them. They, however, brought in three hawks, and a few black

ducks, of a species common in the United States, living in large flocks, and feeding on grass; they are distinguished by a sharp white beak, toes separated, and having no craw. Besides these wild-fowl, there were in this neighbourhood a large kind of buzzard with white wings, the gray and the bald eagle, the large red-tailed hawk, the blue magpie, and great numbers of ravens and crows. We observed, however, but few small birds, the one which attracted our attention was a small brown bird, which seemed to frequent logs and the roots of trees. Of other animals there was a great abundance. We saw great numbers of snakes, lizards, worms, and spiders, as well as small bugs, flies, and other insects of various kinds. The vegetable productions were also numerous. The hills along the coast are high and steep, and the general covering is a growth of lofty pines of different species, some of which rise more than two hundred feet, and are from ten to twelve feet in diameter near the root: Besides these trees, we observed on the point a species of ash, the alder, the laurel, one species of the wild crab, and several kinds of underbrush, among which the rosebush was conspicuous." * * *

It rained almost incessantly the three following days, and sickness began to prevail among the men to such an extent, from eating little else than pounded fish, that they redoubled their efforts to procure a supply of game. Fortunately, on the 2d of December, one of the hunters succeeded in killing an elk, of which animal numerous traces were now seen. "This," says the journalist, "was the first elk we had killed on the west side of the Rocky Mountains; and condemned, as we had been for so long a time, to dried

fish, it proved a most nourishing food. After eating the marrow of the shank bones, the squaw chopped them fine, and by boiling extracted a pint of grease, superior to the tallow itself of the animal. A canoe of eight Indians, who were carrying down *wappatoo* roots to trade with the Clatsops, stopped at our camp. We bought of them a few roots for some small fish-hooks, and they left us; when, accustomed as we had been to the sight, we could not but view with admiration the wonderful dexterity with which they guided their canoes through such boisterous seas; for though the waves were so high that, before they had gone a half a mile, the canoe was at times out of sight, they proceeded with the utmost calmness and security. Two of the hunters who set out yesterday had lost their way, and did not return till this evening: they had seen in their ramble numerous signs of elk, and had killed six, which they had skinned and left at a great distance.

"December 4. A party was sent in the morning to carry the elk killed yesterday to a bay some distance below, to which place,. if the weather permitted, we had determined to remove our camp in the evening; but the rain, which had continued during the night, lasted all the day, and was accompanied by so high a wind from the southeast and south that we dared not risk our canoes on the water. It was high water at eleven o'clock, when the tide rose two feet higher than common. We passed the day around our fires; and as we were so situated that the smoke would not immediately leave the camp, we were very much incommoded by it. No news had yet been received from Captain Lewis, and we began to have much uneasiness for his safety.

The next day, however, Captain Lewis returned to the encampment with the gratifying intelligence that he had discovered a river at no great distance below, where there were abundance of elk, and a favourable position for their winter quarters. He had also killed six elk and five deer, and left two of his men to guard them. Continued bad weather prevented their removing until the 7th, when a favourable change enabled them to proceed. "But the tide," says the Journal, "was against us, and the waves very high, so that we were obliged to go on slowly and cautiously. We at length turned a point, and found ourselves in a deep bay: here we landed for breakfast, and were joined by the party sent out three days ago to look for the six elk. They had lost their way for a day and a half, and when they at last reached the place, found the elk so much spoiled that they brought away nothing but the skins of four of them. After breakfast we coasted round the bay, which is about four miles across, and receives, besides several small creeks, two rivers, called by the Indians, the one Kilhowanakel, the other Netul. We named it Meriwether's Bay, from the Christian name of Captain Lewis, who was, no doubt, the first white man who had surveyed it. The wind was high from the northeast, and in the middle of the day it rained for two hours, and then cleared off. On reaching the south side of the bay we ascended the Netul three miles, to the first point of high land on its western bank, and formed our camp in a thick grove of lofty pines, about two hundred yards from the water, and thirty feet above the level of the high tides."

Having determined on this spot for their winter

encampment, Captain Clarke set out the next day with five men in order to find a favourable place for making salt. After pursuing a southwesterly course for some time across a ridge covered with heavy pine timber, they passed some swampy ground, and then an open prairie, and crossed on a raft a considerable creek running towards Point Adams. "At this place," says the Journal, " they discovered a large heard of elk, and after pursuing them for three miles over swamps and small ponds, killed one of them. The agility with which the animals crossed the swamps and bogs seemed almost incredible. As our men followed their track, the ground for a whole acre would shake under their tread, and sometimes they sunk to their hips without finding bottom. Over the surface of these bogs is a species of moss, among which are great number of cranberries, and here and there are small, steep knobs of earth, thickly covered with pine and laurel. On one of these they halted for the night."

It had rained all the night, and the next morning, sending three of his men to hunt the elk, Captain Clarke proceeded with the other two to accomplish the object he had in view. After a short time he came to a creek too deep to be forded, and, following it for some distance, found that he was between the creek he had crossed yesterday and another branch of it. He returned, therefore, to the point where he had crossed with the raft, and about a mile below it met with three Indians."

" They were loaded," says the Journal, " with fresh salmon, which they had taken with a gig, and were now returning to their villages on the seacoast, where

they invited him to accompany them. He agreed, and they brought out a canoe hid on the banks of the creek. In this they passed over the branch which he had crossed on the raft, and then carried their canoe a quarter of a mile to the other fork, which they also crossed, and then continued down to the mouth of the stream. At this pace it makes a great bend and is seventy yards wide: just above, to the south, was the village.

"They crossed over, and found that it consisted of three houses, inhabited by twelve families of Clatsops. They were situated on the south side of a hill, and sunk about four feet deep into the ground; the walls, roof, and gable-ends being formed of split pine boards: the descent was through a small door, down a ladder. There were two fires in the middle of the room, and the beds were disposed round the walls, two or three feet high, so as to leave room under them for their bags, baskets, and household articles. The floor itself was covered with mats. Captain Clarke was received with much hospitality. As soon as he entered clean mats were spread, and fish, berries, and roots were set before him on small neat platters made of rushes. After he had eaten, the men of the other houses came and smoked with him. They all appeared much cleanlier in their persons and diet than Indians generally are, and frequently washed their hands and faces, a ceremony by no means frequent elsewhere. While he was conversing with them, a flock of brant, lighted on the water, and with a small rifle he shot one of them at a great distance. They immediately jumped in and brought it on shore, very much astonished at the shot, which contributed to increase their respect.

"Towards evening it began to rain and blow very violently from the southwest, and Captain Clarke therefore determined to remain during the night. When they thought sufficient time had elapsed for his appetite to return, an old woman presented him, in a bowl made of light-coloured horn, with a kind of sirup, pleasant to the taste, and made from a species of berry common in this country, about the size of a cherry, and called by the Indians *shelwel:* of these berries a bread was also prepared, which, being boiled with roots, formed a kind of soup, which was served in neat wooden trenchers; and these, with some cockels, consituted his repast. The men of the village now collected and began to gamble. Their principal game was one in which one of the company was banker, and played against all the rest. He had a piece of bone about the size of a large bean, and, having agreed with some individual as to the value of the stake, passed the bone from one hand to the other with great dexterity, singing, at the same time, to divert the attention of his adversary; and then, holding it in one of his hands, his antagonist was challenged to guess in which of them it was, losing or winning as he pointed to the right or wrong hand. To this game they abandoned themselves with great ardour: sometimes everything they possess is sacrificed to it, and this evening several of the Indians lost all the beads which they had with them. It lasted for three hours, when Captain Clarke appearing disposed to sleep, the man who had been most attentive, and whose name was Cuskalah, spread two new mats near the fire, and ordering his wife to retire to his bed, the rest of the company dispersed at the same time. Captain Clarke then laid down, but the violence with

which the fleas attacked him was far from leaving his rest undisturbed, and he rose early.

"December 10. The morning was cloudy, with some rain. Captain Clarke walked to the seacoast, and observed the Indians walking up and down the creek, and examining the shore. He was at loss to understand their object till one of them came to him, and explained that they were in search of any fish which might have been thrown on shore and left by the tide, adding in English, 'sturgeon is very good.' There is, indeed, every reason to believe that these Clatsops depend for their subsistence, during the winter, chiefly on the fish thus casually thrown on the coast. After amusing himself for some time on the beach, he returned towards the village, and shot on his way two brant. As he came near the village, one of the Indians asked him to shoot a duck about thirty steps distant: he did so, and, having accidently shot off its head, the bird was brought to the village, when all the Indians came round in astonishment. They examined the duck, the musket, and the very small bullets, which were a hundred to the pound, and then exclaimed, *Clouch musque, waket, commatax musquet: Good musket; do not understand this kind of musket.* They now placed before him their best roots, fish, and sirup, after which he attempted to purchase a sea-otter skin with some red beads which he happened to have about him; but they declined trading, as they valued none except blue or white beads. He therefore bought nothing but a little berry- bread and a few roots, in exchange for fish-hooks, and then set out to return by the same route he had come. He was accompanied by Cuskalah and his brother as far as the third creek,

and then proceeded to the camp through a heavy rain. The whole party had been occupied during his absence in cutting down trees to make huts, and in hunting."

The next day, notwithstanding it rained without any intermission, and a considerable number of the party were ill, they kept busily at work in putting up their winter-cabins.

"December 12. We continued to work in the rain at our houses. In the evening there arrived two canoes of Clatsops, among whom was a principal chief called Comowool. We gave him a medal, and treated his companions with great attention; after which we began to bargain for a small sea-otter skin, some *wappatoo* roots, and another species of root called *shanataque*. We readily perceived that they were close dealers, stickled much for trifles, and never closed a bargain until they thought they had the advantage. The *wappatoo* is dear, as they themselves are obliged to give a high price for it to the Indians above. Blue beads are the articles most in request; the white occupy the next place in their estimation; but they do not value much those of any other colour. We succeeded at last in purchasing their whole carge for a few fish hooks and a small sack of Indian tobacco which we had received from the Shoshonees."

From the 13th to the 21st, although it rained almost incessantly, with occasional hail, sleet, and snow, they continued to labour diligently on their houses, and were tolerably successful in procuring game. On the last mentioned day they were visited by three Indians in a canoe, with mats, roots, and *sacacommis* berries. "These people proceeded with a dexterity

and finesse in their bargains," says the Journal, "which, if they had not learned them from the foreign visitors, might show how neatly allied is the cunning of savages to the little arts of civilized traffic. They began by asking double or treble the value of what they had to sell, and lowered their demands in proportion to the greater or less degree of ardour or knowledge of the purchaser, who, with all his management, was not able to procure the article for less than its real value, which they perfectly understood. Our chief medium of trade consisted of blue and white beads, files with which they sharpened their tools, fish-hooks, and tobacco; but of all these articles, blue beads and tobacco were the most esteemed."

Owing to the constant and long continued rains, sickness was increasing among the party, and much of their elk-meat was spoiled by the warmth of the weather.

"December 23. It continued raining the whole day, with no variation, except occasional thunder and hail. Two canoes of Clatsops came to us with various articles for sale; we bought three mats and bags neatly made of flags and rushes, and also the skin of a panther seven feet long, including the tail. For all these we gave six small fish-hooks, a worn out file, and some pounded fish, which had become so soft and mouldy by exposure that we could not use it: it was, however highly prized by the Indians. Although a very portable and convenient food, the mode of curing it seems to be known, or at least practised, only by the Indians near the Great Falls, and, coming from such a distance, has an additional value in the eyes of these people, who are anxious to possess something

less precarious than their ordinary food. Among these Clatsops was a second chief, whom we gave a medal, and sent some pounded fish to Cuskalah, who could not come to see us on account of sickness. The next day, however,

"December 24, he came in a canoe with his young brother and two squaws. Having treated Captain Clarke so kindly at his village, we were pleased to see him, and he gave us two mats and a parcel of roots. These were accepted, as it would have been offensive to decline them; but afterward two files were demanded in return for the presents, and, not being able to spare those articles, we restored the mats and roots, at which Cuskalah was a little displeased." * * * "Our whole stock of meat being now completely spoiled, our pounded fish became again our chief dependence. It had rained constantly all the day, but we still continued working, and at last moved into our huts.

"December 25. We were awakened at daylight by a discharge of firearms, which was followed by a song from the men as a compliment to us on the return of Christmas, which we have always been accustomed to observe as a day of rejoicing. After breakfast we divided our remaining stock of tobacco, which amounted to twelve carrots, into two parts, one of which we distributed among such of the party as made use of it, making a present of a handkerchief to the others. The remainder of the day was passed in good spirits, though there was nothing in our situation to excite much gayety. The rain confined us to the house, and our only luxuries in honour of the season were some poor elk-meat, so much spoiled that we ate

it through mere necessity, a few roots, and some mouldy pounded fish.

"December 26. The rain continued, accompanied by thunder, and a high wind from the southeast. We were therefore still obliged to remain in our huts, and endeavoured to dry our wet articles before the fire. The fleas, which annoyed us near the portage of the Great Falls, had so completely taken possession of our clothes, that we were obliged to have a regular search every day through our blankets, as a necessary preliminary to sleeping at night. These insects, indeed, are so numerous that they are almost a calamity to the Indians of this country. When they have once obtained the mastery of any house, it is impossible to expel them; and the Indians have frequently other houses, to which they resort when the fleas have rendered their longer residence in one intolerable: yet, in spite of these precautions, every Indian is constantly attended by multitudes of them, and no one came into our houses without leaving behind him swarms of these tormenting creatures.

"December 27. The rain did not cease last night, nor the greater part of the day. In the evening we were visited by Comowool, the chief, and four men of the Clatsop nation, who brought a very timely supply of roots and berries. Among these was one called *culhomo*, resembling liquorice in size and taste, which they roast like a potato; there was also the *shanataque*, a root of which they are very fond. It is of a black colour, sweet to the taste, and is prepared for eating in a kiln, as the Indians up the Columbia dry the *pasheco*. These, as well as the *shelwel* berries, they value highly, but were perfectly satisfied with the

return we made them, consisting of a small piece of sheepskin for the chief to wear round his head, a pair of earbobs for his son, a small piece of brass, and a little riband." * * *

It rained, as usual, the following day. They sent five men with a large kettle to the seaside, which was about seven miles off, for the purpose of manufacturing salt. "On the 29th," proceeds the Journal, "we were employed all day in picketing the encampment; and in the evening a young Wahkiacum chief, with four men and two women, arrived with some dressed elkskin and *wappatoo* for sale. We purchased about a bushel and a half of those roots for some red beads, small pieces of brass wire, and old check. The chief, too, made us a present of half a bushel more, for which we gave him a medal and a piece of riband to tie round his hat. These roots were extremely grateful, as our meat had become spoiled, and we were desirous of purchasing the remainder; but the chief would not dispose of any more, as he was on his way to trade with the Clatsops. They remained with us, however, till the next day,

"December 30, when they were joined by four more of their countrymen from the Wahkiacum village. These last began by offering us some roots; but, as we had learned that they always expect three or four times as much in return as the real value of the articles they give, and are not satisfied even with that, we declined such dangerous presents. Towards evening the hunters brought in four elk; and, after so long a course of abstinence and miserable diet, we had a most sumptuous supper of elk's tongues

and marrow. Besides this agreeable repast, the state of the weather had been quite exhilerating. It rained during the night, but in the morning, though the highwind continued, we enjoyed the fairest and most pleasant weather we had had since our arrival; the sun shining at intervals, with only three showers in the course of the day. By sunset we had completed our fortification; and we now announced to the Indians that every day at that hour the gates would be closed, when they must leave the place, and not enter it till sunrise. The Wahkiacums, who had remained with us, and who were very forward in their deportment, complied very reluctantly with this order; and, being excluded from our houses, formed a camp near us.

'December 31. As if it were impossible to have twenty-four hours of pleasant weather, the sky last evening clouded, and the rain began and continued through the day. In the morning there came down two canoes, one from the Wahkiacum village, and the other contained three men and a squaw of the Skilloot nation. They brought *wappatoo* and *shanataque* roots, dried fish, mats made of flags and rushes, dressed elkskins, and tobacco, for which, particularly the skins, they asked a very extravagant price. We purchased some *wappatoo* and a little tobacco, very much like that we had seen among the Shoshonees, put up in small, neat bags made of rushes. These we obtained in exchange for a few articles, among which fish-hooks were the most esteemed. One of the Skilloots brought a gun which wanted some repair, and, having put it in order, we received from him a present of about a peck of *wappatoo*; we

then gave him a piece of sheepskin and blue cloth to cover the lock, and he very thankfully offered a farther present of roots. There is, in fact, an obvious superiority in these Skilloots over the Wahkiacums, who are intrusive, thievish, and impertinent. Our new regulation, however, and the appearance of the sentinel, have improved the behaviour of all our Indian visiters. They left the fort before sunset, even without being ordered.

"Besides the fleas, we observed a number of other insects in motion. Snakes were yet to be seen; and snails without covers were common.'" * * *

"January 1, 1806. We were awaked at an early hour by the discharge of a volley of small arms, to salute the new year. This was the only mode of commemorating the day which our situation permitted; for, though we had reason to be gayer than we were at Christmas, our only dainties were boiled elk and *wappatoo*, enlivened by draughts of pure water. We were visited by a few Clatsops, who came by water, bringing roots and berries for sale. Among this nation we observed a man about twenty-five years old, of much lighter complexion than the Indians generally: his face was even freckled, and his hair long, and of a colour inclining to red. He was in habits and manners perfectly Indian; but, though he did not speak a word of English, he seemed to understand more than the others of his party; and as we could obtain no account of his origin, we concluded that one of his parents, at least, must have been white." * * *

"January 2. The hunters brought in two elk, and we obtained from the traps another. This animal,

as well as the beaver and the raccoon, are in plenty near the seacoast, and along the small creeks and rivers as high as the Grand Rapids, and in this country have an exremely good fur.

"The birds most common were the large as well as the small or whistling swan, the sandhill crane, the large and small goose, cormorants, brown and white brant, mallard, and the canvass-back, with several other species of ducks. There were also a small crow, the blue-crested corvus, and the smaller corvus with a white breast, the little brown wren, a large brown sparrow, the bald eagle, and the beautiful buzzard of the Columbia. All these birds continued with us, though they were not in such numbers as on our first arrival in this neighbourhood.

"January 3. At eleven o'clock we were visited by our neighbour the tia, or chief Comowool, who was also called Coone, with six Clatsops. Besides roots and berries, they brought for sale three dogs and some fresh blubber. Having been so long accustomed to the flesh of dogs, the greater part of us had acquired a fondness for it; and our original aversion for it was overcome by reflecting that, while we subsisted on that food, we were fatter, stronger, and in general, enjoyed better health than at any period since leaving the buffalo country eastward of the mountains. The blubber, which is esteemed by the Indians an excellent food, has been obtained, they told us, from their neighbours, the Killamucks, a nation who live on the seacoast to the southeast, and near one of those villages a whale had recently been thrown and foundered." * * *

On the 5th, two of the men who had been sent to

make salt returned to the encampment with about a gallon of that article, which proved to be of good quality, and furnished a very grateful addition to their food. They also brought some blubber of the whale, which had been obtained by the Indians from one of those fish that had floated ashore. "The appearance of this whale," says the narrative, "seemed to be a matter of importance to all the neighbouring Indians; and as we might be able to procure some of it for ourselves, or at least purchase blubber from the Indians, a small parcel of merchandise was prepared, and a party of the men got in readiness to set out in the morning. As soon as this was made known, Chaboneau and his wife requested that they might be permitted to accompany the party. The poor woman stated very earnestly that she had travelled a long way with us to behold the great water, yet she had never been down to the coast; and, now that this monstrous fish was also to be seen, it seemed hard that she should not be permitted to see either the ocean or the whale. So reasonable a request could not be denied; they were therefore suffered to go with Captain Clarke.

"January 6. After an early breakfast, he set out with twelve men in two canoes. He proceeded down the Netul into Meriwether Bay, intending to go to the Clatsop town, and there procure a guide through the creeks, which there was reason to believe communicated not only with the bay, but with a small river running towards the sea, near which our salt-makers were encamped." A high wind springing up however, from the northwest, and obliging them to put into a small creek, he determined to attempt the

passage without any guide. After proceeding up this creek three miles, they left their canoes, and followed an Indian path for some distance, when, arriving at the creek they had formerly passed on a raft, they crossed it, and, having killed an elk for their supper, encamped for the night.

CHAPTER VI.

Captain Clarke continues his Route in Quest of the Whale.—Passes Clatsop River.—Perilous Nature of the Journey.—Grandeur of the Scenery.—Indian Mode of extracting Whale oil.—The Life of one of Captain Clarke's Party preserved by the Kindness of an Indian Woman.—Short Account of the Chinnooks, Clatsops, Killamucks, and Lucktons.—Manner of Sepulture among the Chinnooks, Clatsops, &c.—Their Weapons of War and Hunting.—Their Mode of building Houses.—Their Manufactures and Cookery.—Their Canoes.—Great Dexterity in managing them.

THEY started again early the next morning, and after encountering some difficulties, came to the seashore, which they followed for five miles, when they reached the encampment of their salt-makers. "Here," proceeds the narrative, "we persuaded a young Indian, by the present of a file and a promise of some other articles, to guide us to the spot where the whale lay. He led us for two and a half miles over round slippery stones at the foot of a high hill projecting into the sea, and suddenly stopping, and uttering the word *peshack*, or bad, explained by signs that we could no longer follow the coast, but must cross the mountain. This promised to be a most laborious undertaking, for the side was nearly perpendicular, and the top lost in clouds. He, however, followed an Indian path, which wound about as much as possible, but still the ascent was so steep that at one place we drew ourselves up for about a

hundred feet by means of bushes and roots. At length, after two hours' labour, we reached the top of the mountain, whence we looked down with astonishment on the prodigious height of ten or twelve hundred feet which we had ascended. Immediately below us, in the face of this precipice, was a stratum of white earth, used, as our guide informed us, as a paint by the neighbouring Indians. It obviously contains argil, and resembles the earth of which the French porcelain is made; but whether it contains either silex or magnesia, or, if so, in what proportions, we could not determine. We were here met by fourteen Indians with oil and blubber, the spoils of the whale, which they were carrying in very heavy loads over this rough mountain. On leaving them, we proceeded over a bad road till night, when we encamped on a small run: we were all much fatigued, but the weather was pleasant, and, for the first time since our arrival here, an entire day had been passed without rain.

"January 8. We set out early, and proceeded along the top of the mountain, the highest point of which is an open spot facing the ocean. It is situated about thirty miles southeast of Cape Disappointment, and projects nearly two and a half miles into the sea. Here one of the most delightful views in nature presented itself. Immediately in front was the ocean, breaking with fury on the coast, from the rocks of Cape Disappointment as far as the eye could discern to the northwest, and against the high lands and irregular piles of rock which diversify the shore to the southeast. To this boisterous scene, the Columbia, with its tributary waters, widening into bays as it

approaches the ocean, and studded on both sides with the Chinnook and Clatsop villages, formed a charming contrast; while immediately beneath our feet were stretched rich prairies, enlivened by three beautiful streams, which conducted the eye to small lakes at the foot of the hills. We stopped to enjoy the romantic prospect from this place, which we distinguished by the name of Clarke's Point of View, and then followed our guide down the mountain. The descent was steep and dangerous: in many places the hillsides, which are formed principally of yellow clay, had been washed by the late rains, and were now slipping into the sea in large masses of from fifty to a hundred acres. In other parts the path crossed the rugged perpendicular rocks which overhang the sea, into which a single false step would have precipitated us. This mountain is covered with a very thick growth of timber, chiefly pine and fir; some of which, near Clarke's Point of View, perfectly sound and solid, rose to the height of two hundred and ten feet, and were from eight to twelve in diameter. Intermixed is the white cedar, or *arbor vitæ*, and a small quantity of black alder, two or three feet thick, and sixty or seventy in height. At length we reached a single house, the remains of an old Killamuck village, situated among the rocks, in a bay immediately on the coast. We then continued for two miles along the sand beach, and after crossing a creek eighty yards in width, near which were five cabins, reached the place where the waves had thrown the whale on shore. The animal had landed between two Killamuck villages; and such had been the industry of the natives, that there now remained

nothing more than the skeleton, which we found to be one hundred and five feet in length. Captain Clarke then returned to the village of five huts on the creek, to which he gave the name of Ecola, or Whale Creek. The Indians were all busied in boiling the blubber in a large square trough of wood, by means of heated stones, and preserving the oil thus extracted in bladders and the entrails of the whale. The refuse of the blubber, which still contained a portion of oil, was hung up in large flitches, and when wanted for use is warmed on a wooden spit before the fire, and eaten either alone or dipped in oil, or with the roots of the rush and *shanataque*. The Killamucks, though they had great quantities of it, parted with it reluctantly, and at such high prices that our whole stock of merchandise was exhausted in the purchase of about three hundred pounds of blubber and a few gallons of oil. With this we set out to return; and, having crossed Ecola Creek, encamped on its bank, where there was abundance of fine timber. We were soon joined by the men of the village, with whom we smoked, and who gave us all the information they possessed relative to their country.

"These Killamucks are part of a much larger nation of the same name, and reside chiefly in four villages, each at the entrance of a different creek, and all falling into a bay on the southwest coast; that at which we now were being the most northern, and at the distance of about forty-five miles southeast of Point Adams. The rest of the nation are scattered along the coast, and on the banks of a river, which, as it was marked in their delineations,

we called Killamuck's River, emptying itself in the same direction. During the salmon season they catch great quantities of that fish in the small creeks and when these fail, their chief resource is the sturgeon and other fish stranded along the coast. The elk are very numerous in the mountains, but they cannot procure many of them with their arrows; and their principal communication with strangers is by means of the Killamuck River, up which they pass to the Shocatilcum, or the Columbia, to trade for *wappatoo* roots. In their dress, appearance, and, indeed, everything else, they differ very little from the Chinnooks, Clatsops, and other nations in the neighbourhood: the chief difference we have observed is in their manner of burying the dead, the bodies being deposited in an oblong box of plank, which is placed in an open canoe, lying on the ground, with a paddle and other small articles of the deceased by his side.

"While smoking with the Indians, Captain Clarke was startled about ten o'clock by a loud, shrill cry from the opposite village, on hearing which all the natives immediately started up to cross the creek, and the guide informed him that some one had been killed. On examination, one of our men was discovered to be absent, and a guard was despatched, who met him crossing the creek in great haste. An Indian belonging to another band, and who happened to be with the Killamucks that evening, had treated him with much kindness, and walked arm in arm with him to a tent, where our man found a Chinnook squaw who was an old acquaintance. From the conversation and manner of the stranger, this

woman discovered that his object was to murder the white man for the sake of the few articles on his person; and when he rose and pressed our man to go to another tent, where they would find something better to eat, she held M'Neal by the blanket. Not knowing her object, he freed himself from her, and was going on with his pretended friend, when she ran out and gave a shriek which brought the men of the village over, and the stranger ran off before M'Neal knew what had occasioned the alarm.

"January 9. The morning was fine, the wind from the northeast. Having divided our stock of blubber, we began at sunrise to retrace our steps, in order to reach Fort Clatsop, at the distance of thirty-five miles. We met several parties of Indians on their way to trade for blubber and oil with the Killamucks (our route lay across the same mountains which we had already passed): we also overtook a party returning from the village, and could not but regard with astonishment the heavy loads which the women were carrying along these fatiguing and dangerous paths. As one of them was descending a steep part of the mountain, her load slipped from her back, and she stood holding it by a strap with one hand, and with the other supporting herself by a bush: Captain Clarke being near her, undertook to replace the load, and found it almost as much as he could lift, and above one hundred pounds in weight. Loaded as they were they kept pace with us till we reached the salt-makers tent, where we passed the night, while they continued their route."

The party the next day proceeded to the point where they had left their canoes, and reached the

encampment late in the evening. "This morning," proceeds the Journal (January 10), "there came to the fort twelve Indians in a large canoe: they were of the Cathlamah nation, our nearest neighbours above, on the south side of the river. Their tia or chief, whose name was Shahawacap, having been absent on a hunting excursion as we passed his village, had never yet seen us, and we therefore showed him all the honours which our reduced finances would permit. We invested him with a small medal, and received a present of Indian tobacco and a basket of *wappatoo* in return, for which we gave him a small piece of our tobacco and thread for a fishing-net. They had brought dried salmon, *wappatoo*, dogs, and mats made of rushes and flags; but we purchased only some dogs and *wappatoo*. These Cathlamahs speak the same language as the Chinnooks and Clatsops, whom they also resemble in dress and manners."

Their Indian canoe drifted away during the night, and, although they made diligent search for her, the men sent out were unable to find her.

"January 12. Our meat," continues the Journal, "was now becoming scarce, and we therefore determined to jerk it, and issue it in small quantities, instead of dividing it among the four messes, and leaving to each the care of its own provisions; a plan by which much was lost, in consequence of the improvidence of the men. Two hunters had been despatched in the morning, and one of them, Drewyer, had before evening killed seven elk. We should, indeed, have been scarcely able to subsist but for the exertions of this excellent hunter. The game was

scarce, and nothing was now to be seen except elk, which almost all the men found it very difficult to shoot; but Drewyer, who was the son of a Canadian Frenchman and an Indian woman, had passed his life in the woods, and united, in wonderful degree, the dexterous aim of the frontier huntsman with the intuitive sagacity of the Indian in pursuing the faintest tracks through the forest. All our men, however, had become so expert with the rifle, that we were never under serious apprehensions as to food, since, whenever there was game of any kind, we were almost certain of procuring it." * * *

"January 13. From all that we had seen and learned of the Chinooks, we were induced to estimate the nation at about twenty-eight houses and four hundred souls. They reside chiefly along the banks of a river, to which we gave the same name, and which running parallel to the seacoast, waters a low country with many stagnant ponds, and then empties itself into Haley's Bay. The wild fowl of these ponds, and the elk and deer of the neighbourhood furnish them with occasional luxuries; but their chief subsistence is derived from the salmon and other fish which are caught in the small streams by means of nets and gigs, or thrown on shore by the violence of the tide. To these are added some roots, such as the wild liquorice, which is the most common, the *shanataque*, and the *wappatoo*, brought down the river by the traders.

"The men are low in stature, rather ugly, and ill made; their legs being small and crooked, their feet large, and their heads, like those of the women, flattened in a most disgusting manner. These deform-

ities are in part concealed by robes made of sea-otter, deer, elk, beaver or fox skins. They also employ in their dress robes of the skin of a cat peculiar to this country, and of another animal of the same size, which is light and durable, and sold at a high price by the Indians who bring it from above. In addition to these are worn blankets, wrappers of red, blue, or spotted cloth, and some old sailors clothes, which are very highly prized. The greater part of the men have guns, with powder and ball.

"The women have in general handsome faces, but are low and disproportioned, with small feet and large legs, occasioned, probably, by strands of beads, or various strings, drawn so tight above the ankles as to prevent the circulation of the blood. Their dress, like that of the Wahkiacums, consists of a short robe and a tissue of cedar bark. Their hair hangs loosely down the shoulders and back; and their ears, neck, and wrists are ornamented with blue beads. Another decoration, which is very highly prized, consists of figures made by punching the arms or legs; and on the arms of one of the squaws we observed the name of J. Bowman, executed in the same way. In language, habits, and in almost every other particular, they resemble the Clatsops, Cathlamahs, and, indeed, all the people near the mouth of the Columbia, though they appeared to be inferior to their neighbours in honesty as well as spirit. No ill treatment or indignity on our part seemed to excite any feeling except fear: nor, although better provided than their neighbours with arms, have they enterprise enough either to use them advantageously against the animals of the forest, or offensively against

the tribes near them, who owe their safety more to the timidity than the forbearance of the Chinnooks. We had heard instances of pilfering while we were among them, and therefore gave a general order excluding them from our encampment, so that whenever an Indian wished to visit us, he began calling out 'No Chinnook.' It is not improbable that this first impression may have left a prejudice against them, since, when we were among the Clatsops and other tribes at the mouth of the Columbia, they had less opportunity of stealing, if they were so disposed."

The next day they were so fortunate as to recover their missing canoe, and took precaution to prevent any future accident of the kind. The Journal proceeds to give a more particular account of the Clatsops and Killamucks, from such knowledge as could be obtained in relation to them, either from the Indians or by personal observation.

* * * "The first nation to the south are the Clatsops, who reside on the southern side of the bay and along the seacoast, on both sides of Point Adams. They were represented as the remains of a much larger nation; but about four years ago, a disorder, to which till then they were strangers, but which seems, from their description, to have been the smallpox, destroyed four chiefs and several hundred of the nation. These were deposited in canoes, a few miles below us in the bay, and the survivers do not number more than fourteen houses and about two hundred souls. Next to them, along the southeast coast, is a much larger nation, the Killamucks, who number fifty houses and a thousand souls. Their first establishment consists of the four huts at the

mouth of Ecola Creek, thirty-five miles from Point Adams, and two miles below are a few more huts; but the principal town is situated twenty miles lower; at the entrance of a creek called Nielee, into the bay which we designated by the name of Killamuck Bay. Into the same bay empties a second creek, five miles farther, where is a Killamuck village called Kilherhurst; at two miles a third creek, and a town called Kilherner; and at the same distance a town called Chishuck, at the mouth of the Killamuck River. Towerquotton and Chucklin are the names of two other towns, situated on the creeks which empty into the boottom of the bay, the last of which is seventy miles from Point Adams. The Killamuck River is about one hundred yards wide, and very rapid, but, having no perpendicular fall, is the great avenue for trade. There are two small villages of Killamucks settled above its mouth, and the whole trading part of the tribe ascend it, till by short portage they carry their canoes over to the Columbian Valley, and descend the Multnomah to Wappatoo Island. Here they purchase roots, which they carry down the Chockalilum or Columbia; and, after trafficking with the tribes on its banks for the various articles which they require, either return up the Columbia, or cross over through the country of the Clatsops. This trade, however, is obviously little more than a loose and irregular barter, on a very small scale; for the materials for commerce are so extremely scanty and precarious, that the stranding of a whale is an important commercial incident, which interests all the adjoining country. The Killamucks have little that is peculiar, either in character or man-

ners, and resemble in almost every particular the Clatsops and Chinnooks."* * * *

"The Chinnooks, Clatsops, and most of the adjoining nations deposite their dead in canoes. For this purpose a scaffold is erected, by fixing perpendicularly in the ground four long pieces of split timber. These are placed two by two, just wide enough apart to admit the canoe, and sufficiently long to support its two extremities, the boards are connected by a bar of wood run through them at the height of six feet, on which is placed a small canoe, containing the body of the deceased carefully wrapped in a robe of dressed skins, with a paddle and other articles that had belonged to him by his side. Over this canoe is placed one of a larger size, reversed, with its gunwhale resting on the crossbars, so as to cover the body completely. One or more large mats of rushes or flags are then rolled round both the canoes, and the whole secured by cords, usually made of the bark of the white cedar. On these crossbars are hung different articles of clothing, or culinary utensils. The method practised by the Killamucks differs somewhat from this, the body being deposited in an oblong box of plank, which, with the paddle and other articles, is placed in a canoe resting on the ground. With the religious opinions of these people we became but little acquainted, since we understood their language too imperfectly to converse on a subject so abstruse; but it is obvious, from the different articles which they place by their dead, that they believe in a future state of existence."

* * * "The implements used in hunting by the Clatsops, Chinnooks, and other neighbouring nations,

are the gun, bow and arrow, deadfall, pits, snares and spears or gigs. The guns are generally old American or British muskets, repaired for this trade; and, although there are some good pieces among them, they are constantly out of order, as the Indians have not been sufficiently accustomed to arms to understand the management of them. Their powder is kept in the small japanned flasks in which the traders sell it; and when ball or shot fails them, they make use of gravel, or pieces of metal from their pots, without being sensible of the injury done to their guns. These arms are reserved for hunting elk, and the few deer and bear in the neighbourhood; but, as they have no rifles, they are not very successful hunters. The most common weapon is the bow and arrow, with which every man is provided, even though he may carry a gun, and which is used in every kind of hunting. The bow is extremely neat, and, being very thin and flat, possesses great elasticity. It is made of the heart of the white cedar, about two feet and a half in length, and two inches wide in the centre, whence it tapers to the width of half an inch at the extremities; and the back is covered with the sinews of elk, fastened on by means of a glue made from the sturgeon. The string is formed of the same sinews. The arrow generally consists of two parts: the first is about twenty inches long, and formed of light white pine, with the feather at one end, and at the other a circular hole, which receives the second part, formed of some harder wood, about five inches long, and secured in its place by means of sinews. The barb is either of stone, or of iron or copper; and when of the latter, the angle is more obtuse than any

we have seen. If, as sometimes happens, the arrow is formed of a single piece, the whole is of a firmer and heavier wood; but the kind just described is preferred, since much of the game consists of wild-fowl on the ponds, it is desirable that their arrows should be of material to float when they fall into the water. These arrows are kept in a quiver made of elk or young bear skin, opening, not at the ends like the common quivers, but at the sides, which for those who hunt in canoes is much more convenient. These weapons are not very powerful, however, for many of the elk we killed had been wounded with them; and although the barb, with the small end of the arrow, remained, the flesh had closed, and the animal suffered no permanent injury. The deadfalls and snares are used in taking the wolf, racoon, and fox, of which there are, however, but few in this country. The spear or gig employed in the pursuit of the sea-otter (which they call *spuck*), the common otter, and beaver, consists of two points of barbs, and is like those already described as common among the Indians on the upper part of the Columbia. The pits are chiefly for the elk, and they are therefore usually large cubes, twelve or fourteen feet in depth, and are made by the side of a fallen tree lying across some path frequented by the animal. They are covered with slender boughs and moss, and the elk either sinks into the pit as he approaches the tree, or in leaping over the tree falls into it on the other side." * * *

"In fishing, the Clatsops, Chinnooks, and other nations near this place employ the common straight net, the scoop or dip net with a long handle, the gig, and the hook and line. The first is of different

lengths and depths, and is employed in taking salmon, charr, and trout in the deep inlets among the marshy grounds and at the mouths of deep creeks. The scoop-net is used for the small fish in the spring and summer season; and in both kinds the net is formed of silk grass, or of the bark of white cedar. The gig is employed at all seasons, and for all kinds of fish they can take with it; so too, is the hook and line, the latter being made of the same material as the net, and their hooks being generally brought by the traders; though, before the whites came, they made their hooks out of two small pieces of bone, resembling the European hook, but with a much more acute angle where the two pieces were joined." * * *

"The houses in this neighbourhood are all large wooden buildings, varying in length from twenty to sixty feet, and from fourteen to twenty in width. They are constructed in the following manner: two or more posts of split timber, according to the number of partitions, are sunk in the ground, above which they rise to the height of from fourteen to eighteen feet. They are hollowed at the top so as to receive the ends of a round beam or pole stretching from one to the other, and forming the upper point of the roof for the whole extent of the building. On each side of this range is placed another, which forms the eaves of the house, and is about five feet high; but as the building is often sunk to the depth of four or five feet, the eaves come very near the surface of the earth. Smaller pieces of timber are now extended by pairs, in the form of rafters, from the lower to the upper beam, where they are attached at both ends with cords of cedar bark. On these rafters two or three

ranges of small poles are placed horizontally, and secured in the same way with strings of cedar bark. The sides are now formed with a range of wide boards, sunk a small distance into the ground, with the upper ends projecting above the poles at the eaves, to which they are secured by a beam running along outside parallel with the eave-poles, and tied by cords of cedar bark passing through holes made in the boards at certain distances. The gable ends and partitions are formed in the same way, being fastened by beams on the outside parallel to the rafters. The roof is then covered with a double range of thin boards, except an aperture of two or three feet in the centre for the smoke to pass through. The entrance is by a small hole cut out of the boards, and just large enough to admit the body. Only the very largest houses are divided by partitions; for, though three or more families reside in the same room, there is quite space enough for all of them. In the centre of each room is a space six or eight feet square, sunk to the depth of twelve inches below the rest of the floor and enclosed by four pieces of square timber. Here they make their fire, for which pine bark is generally preferred. Around this fireplace mats are spread, which serve as seats during the day, and very frequently as beds at night; there is, however, a more permanent bed, made by fixing in two or sometimes three sides of the room, posts reaching from the roof down to the ground, and at the distance of four feet from the wall. From these posts to the wall itself one or two ranges of boards are placed, so as to form shelves, on which they either sleep, or stow their various articles of merchandise. The uncured

fish is hung in the smoke of their fires, as is also the flesh of the elk, when they are fortunate enough to procure any, which is but rarely the case."

* * * "The hats of the Clatsops are made of cedar and bear grass, interwoven together in the form of a European hat, with a small brim of about two inches, and a high crown widening upward. They are light, ornamented with various colors and figures, and, being nearly water-proof, are much more durable than either chip or straw hats. These hats form a small article of traffic with the whites, and the manufacture is one of the best specimens of Indian industry. They are, however, very dexterous in making a variety of domestic utensils, among which are bowls, spoons, skewers, spits, and baskets. The bowl or trough is of different shapes, round, semicircular, in the form of a canoe, or cubic, and generally dug out of a single piece of wood, the larger vessels having holes in the sides by way of handle, and all being executed with great neatness. In these vessels they boil their food by throwing hot stones into the water, and extract oil from different animals in the same way. Spoons are not very abundant, nor is there anything remarkable in their shape, except that they are large, with the bowl broad. Meat is roasted on one end of a sharp skewer, placed erect before the fire, with the other fixed in the ground. The spit for fish is split at the top into two parts, between which the fish is placed, cut open, and its sides extended by means of small splinters. The usual plate is a small mat of rushes or flags, on which everything is served. The instrument with which they dig up roots is a strong stick, about three feet and a half long, sharp-

ened and a little curved at the lower end, while the upper is inserted into a handle, standing transversely, and made of part of an elk or buck's horn. But the most curious workmanship is that of the basket. It is formed of cedar bark and bear-grass, so closely interwoven that it is water-tight, without the aid either of gum or resin. The form is generally conic, or, rather, that of the segment of a cone, of which the smaller end is at the bottom of the basket: and being made of all sizes, from that of the smallest cup to the capacity of five or six gallons, they answer the double purpose of a covering for the head and to contain water. Some of them are very highly ornamented with strands of bear-grass, woven into figures of various colors, which require great labour; yet they are made very expeditiously, and sold for a trifle. It is for the construction of these baskets that the bear grass forms an article of considerable traffic. It grows only near the snowy region of the high mountains, and the blade, which is two feet long, and about three eights of an inch wide, is smooth, and pliant; the young blades particularly, from their not being exposed to the sun and air, have an appearance of great neatness, and are generally preferred. Other baskets, and also bags, not waterproof, are made of cedar bark, silk-grass, rushes, flags, and common coarse sedge, for the use of families. In the manufactures, as well as in the ordinary work of the house, the instrument most in use is a knife, or rather dagger. The handle of it is small, and has a strong loop of twine for the thumb, to prevent its being wrested from the hand. At each end is a blade, double edged and pointed; the longer from nine to

ten inches, the shorter from four to five. This knife is carried about habitually in the hand, sometimes exposed, but mostly under the robe."

* * * "The industry of the Indians is not confined to household articles: the greatest effort of their skill is in the construction of their canoes. In a country, indeed, where so much of the intercourse betweeen the different tribes is carried on by water, their ingenuity would naturally be directed to the improvement of their canoes, which would gradually advance from a mere safe conveyance to something tasteful and elegant. We have, accordingly, seen canoes of various forms, from the simple boats near the mountains, to the highly-decorated ones, because more used, near the mouth of the Columbia. Below the Grand Cataract there are four kinds of canoes. The first and smallest is about fifteen feet long, and calculated for one or two persons: it is, indeed, by no means remarkable in its structure, and is chiefly employed by the Cathalamahs and Wahkiacums among the marshy islands. The second is from twenty to thirty-five feet long, about two and a half or three feet in the beam, and two feet in the hold. It is chiefly remarkable in having the bowsprit, which rises to some height above the bow, formed by tapering gradually from the sides into a sharp point. Canoes of this shape are common to all the nations below the Grand Rapids.

"But the canoes most used by the Columbia Indians, from the Chilluckittequaws inclusive to the ocean, are from thirty to thirty-five feet long. The bow, which looks more like the stern of our boats, is higher than the other end, and is ornamented with

a sort of comb, an inch in thickness, cut out of the same log which forms the canoe, and extending from nine to eleven inches from the bowsprit to the bottom of the boat. The stern is neatly rounded off, and gradually ascends to a point. This canoe is very light and convenient; for, though it will contain ten or twelve persons, it may be carried with great ease by four."

"The fourth and largest kind of canoe we did not meet till we reached tide-water, near the Grand Rapids below, where they are found among all the nations, especially the Killamucks and others residing on the seacoast. They are upward of fifty feet long, and will carry from eight to ten thousand pounds' weight, or from twenty to thirty persons. Like all the canoes we have mentioned, they are cut out of a single trunk of tree, which is generally white cedar, though the fir is sometimes used. The sides are secured by cross-bars or round sticks two or three inches in thickness, which are inserted through holes made just below the gunwale, and made fast with cords. The upper edge of the gunwale itself is about five eights of an inch thick and four or five in breadth, and folds outward, so as to form a kind of rim, which prevents the water from beating into the boat. The bow and stern are about the same height, and each provided with a comb, reaching to the bottom of the boat. At each end also are pedestals, formed of the same solid piece on which are placed strange grotesque figures of men or animals, rising sometimes to the height of five feet, and composed of small pieces of wood, firmly united, with great ingenuity, by inlaying and mortising, with-

out a spike of any kind. The paddle is usually from four feet and a half to five feet in length, the handle being thick for one third of its length when it widens, and is hollowed and thinned on each side of the centre, which forms a sort of rib. When they embark, one Indian sits in the stern, and steers with a paddle, the others kneel in pairs in the bottom of the canoe, and, sitting on their heels, paddle over the gunwale next to them. In this way they ride with perfect safety the highest waves, and venture without the least concern in seas where other boats or seamen could not live an instant. They sit quietly, with no other movement but that required in paddling, except a large wave chances to throw the boat on her side, and to the eye of the spectator she seems lost, when the man to the windward steadies her by throwing his body towards the upper side, and sinking his paddle deep into the wave, appearing to catch the water and force it under the boat, while the same stroke pushes her on with great velocity. In the management of these canoes, the women are equally as expert as the men; for in the smaller boats, which contain four oars-men, the helm is generally given to a female. As soon as they land, the canoe is generally drawn on shore, unless she is very heavily laden; but at night the load is universally taken out, and the canoe hauled up.

"Our admiration of their skill in these curious constructions was increased by observing the very inadequate implements which they use. These Indians possess very few axes, and the only tool they employ, from felling of the tree to the delicate workmanship of the images, is a chisel made of an old file,

about an inch or an inch and a half in width. Even of this too, they have not learned the proper management; for the chisel is sometimes fixed in a large block of wood, and, being held in the right hand, the block is pushed with the left, without the aid of a mallet. But under all these disadvantages, their canoes, which one would suppose to be the work of years, are made in a few weeks. A canoe, however, is very highly prized, being in traffic an article of the greatest value except a wife, and of equal value with her; so that a lover generally gives a canoe to the father in exchange for his daughter."

Nothing special occurred from the 14th to the 20th. As they had a supply of salt, they used it in curing the meat brought in by the hunters; and the season for their return being near at hand, they were busily employed in preparing clothes, &c., for the journey.

CHAPTER VII.

Farther Account of the Clatsops, Killamucks, and Chinnooks; also of the Cathlamahs.—Their Custom of Flattening the Forehead.—Their Dress and Ornaments described.—Their Diseases.—The common Opinion that the Treatment of their Women is the Standard by which the Virtues of the Indians may be known, combated, and disproved by Examples.—The Respect entertained by these Indians for old Age, compared with the different Conduct of those who subsist by the Chase.—Their Mode of Government.—Their Ignorance of ardent Spirits, and their Fondness for Gambling.—Their Dexterity in Traffic.—In what Articles their Traffic consists.—Their extraordinary Fondness for blue Beads, which form their circulating Medium.

"THE Killamucks," continues the Journal, "and the Clatsops, Chinnooks, and Cathlamahs, the four neighbouring nations, with whom we had most intercourse, have a general resemblance in person, dress, and manners. They are commonly of a diminutive stature, badly shaped, and their appearance is by no means prepossessing. They have broad, thick, flat feet, thick ankles, and crooked legs: the last of which deformities is to be ascribed, in part, as we have already observed, to the universal practice of squatting, or sitting on the calves of their legs and on their heels, and also to the tight bandages of beads and strings worn around the ankles by the women, which prevent the circulation of the blood, and render the legs of the females, in particular, ill shaped and swollen. The complexion is the usual copper-coloured brown of the North American tribes, though it is rather lighter than that of the Indians on the Missouri and the frontiers of the United States. The mouth

is wide, and the lips are thick; the nose is of a moderate size, fleshy, wide at the extremities, with large nostrils, and generally low between the eyes, though there are rare instances of high aquiline noses; the eyes are generally black, though we occasionally saw them of a dark yellowish-brown, with a black pupil. But the most distinguishing part of their physiognomy is the peculiar flatness and width of their forehead: a peculiarity which they owe to one of those customs by which nature is sacrificed to fantastic ideas of beauty. The practice, indeed, of flattening the head by artificial pressure during infancy, prevails among all the nations we have seen west of the Rocky Mountains; whereas to the east of that barrier the fashion is so perfectly unknown, that there the western Indians, with the exception of the Alliatan or Snake nation, are designated by the common name of Flat-heads. This singular usage, which it would scarcely seem possible that nature should suggest to remote nations, might perhaps incline us to believe in the common and not very ancient origin of all the western tribes. Such an opinion would well accord with the fact that, while on the lower parts of the Columbia both sexes are universally flatheads, the custom diminishes in receding eastward from the common centre of the practice, till among the remoter tribes near the mountains nature recovers her rights and the exhausted folly is confined to a few females. This opinion, however, is corrected or weakened by considering that the flattening of the head is not, in fact, peculiar to that part of the continent, since it was among the first objects which struck the attention of Columbus.

"But, wherever it may have begun, the practice is now universal among these nations. Soon after the birth of her child, the mother, anxious to procure for her infant the recommendation of a broad forehead, places it in the compressing machine, where it is kept for ten or twelve months, though the females remain longer than the boys. The operation is so gradual that it is not attended with pain; but the impression is deep and permanent. The heads of the children, when they are released from the bandage, are not more than two inches thick about the upper edge of the forehead, and still thinner above; nor, with all their efforts, can nature ever restore their proper shape, the heads of grown persons being often in a straight line from the nose to the top of the forehead.

"The hair of both sexes is parted at the top of the head, and thence falls loosely behind the ears, over the back and shoulders. They use combs, of which they are very fond; but contrive, without the aid of them, to keep their hair in very good order. The dress of the men consists of a small robe reaching to the middle of the thigh, tied by a string across the breast, with its corners hanging loosely over their arms. These robes are, in general, composed of the skins of a small animal which we supposed to be the brown mungo. They have, besides, those made of the tiger, cat, deer, panther, bear, and elk skin, which last is principally used in war parties. Sometimes they have a blanket, woven with the fingers from the wool of their native sheep. Occasionally a mat is thrown over them to keep off the rain, but they have no article of clothing during winter or summer excepting this robe, so that every part of the body

but the head and shoulders is exposed to view. They are very fond of the dress of the whites, whom they call *pashisheooks*, or clothmen; and, whenever they can procure any of our clothes, wear them in our manner: the only article, indeed, used by the whites, which we have not seen among them, is the shoe.

"The robe of the women is like that worn by the men, except that it does not reach below the waist. Those most esteemed are made of strips of sea-otter skin, which being twisted, are interwoven with silk-grass or the bark of the white cedar in such a manner that the fur appears equally on both sides, so as to form a soft and warm covering. The skin of the racoon or beaver is also employed in the same way; though, on other occasions, these skins are simply dressed in the hair, and worn without farther preparation. The garment which covers the body from the waist as low as the knee before and the thigh behind, is the tissue already described, and is made either of the bruised bark of white cedar, twisted cords of silk-grass, or flags and rushes. Neither leggins nor moccasins are ever used, the mildness of the climate not requiring them as a security from the weather, and their being so much in the water rendering them an encumbrance The only covering for the head is a hat made of bear-grass and the bark of cedar, interwoven in a conic form, with a knob of the same shape at the top. It has no brim, but is held on the head by a string passing under the chin, and tied to a small rim inside of the hat. The colours are generally black and white only, and these are made into squares, triangles, and sometimes rude figures of canoes and seamen harpooning whales. This is all the usual dress of the females; but if the weather be unusually severe,

they add a vest formed of skins like the robe, and tied behind, without any shoulder-straps to keep it up." * * *

"Sometimes, though not often, they mark their skins by puncturing and introducing some coloured matter: this ornament is chiefly confined to the women, who thus imprint on their legs and arms circular or parallel dots. On the arm of one of the squaws, as has been before mentioned, we read the name of 'J. Bowman,' probably a trader who has visited the mouth of the Columbia. The favourite decoration, however, of both sexes, consists of the common coarse blue or white beads, which are folded very tightly round their wrists and ankles, to the width of three or four inches, and worn in large loose rolls round the neck, or as earrings, or hanging from the nose, which last mode is peculiar to the men. There is also a species of wampum very much in use, which seems to be worn in its natural form, without any preparation. It is in the shape of a cone, somewhat curved, about the size of a raven's quill at the base, and tapering to a point, its whole length being from one to two and a half inches, white, smooth, hard, and thin. A small thread is passed through it, and the wampum is either suspended from the nose, or passed through the cartilage horizontally, forming a ring from which other ornaments hang. Wampum is employed in the same way as beads, but more especially as a decoration for the noses of the men, who also use collars made of bears' claws, while the women and children wear those of elk's tusks, and both sexes are adorned with bracelets of copper, iron, or brass, in various forms." * * *

"The Clatsops, and other nations at the mouth of the Columbia, visited us with great freedom, and we endeavoured to cultivate their friendship, as well for the purposes of obtaining information, as to leave behind us impressions favourable to our country. Having acquired much of their language, we were enabled, with the aid of gestures, to hold conversations with great ease. We found them inquisitive and loquacious, with understandings by no means deficient in acuteness, and with very retentive memories; and, though fond of feasts, and generally cheerful, they are never gay. Everything they observe excites their attention and inquiry; but, having been accustomed to see the whites, nothing appeared to astonish them more than the air-gun. To all our questions they answered with great intelligence, and the conversation rarely slackened, as there was a constant discussion of the events, trade, politics, &c., in the small but active circle of the Killamucks, Clatsops, Cathalamahs, Wahkiacums, and Chinnooks." * * *

"The treatment of their women is often considered as the standard by which the moral qualities of savages are to be estimated. Our own observation, however, induced us to think that the condition of the female in savage life has no necessary relation to the virtues of the men, but is regulated wholly by their capacity to be useful. The Indians who treat their females most mildly, and pay most deference to their opinions, are by no means the most distinguished for their virtues; nor is this deference attended by any increase of attachment. On the other hand, the tribes among whom the women are very much debased, possess the loftiest sense of honour,

the greatest liberality, and all the good qualities of which their situation demands the exercise. Where the women can aid in procuring food for the tribe, they are treated with more equality, and their importance is proportioned to the share which they take in that labour; while in countries where subsistence is chiefly procured by the exertions of the men, the women are considered and treated as burdens. Thus, among the Clatsops and Chinnooks, who live upon fish and roots, which the women are equally expert with the men in procuring, the former have a rank and influence very rarely found among Indians. Here the females are permitted to speak freely before the men, whom, indeed, they sometimes address in a tone of authority. On many subjects their judgment and opinions are respected, and in matters of trade their advice is generally asked and followed. The labours of the family are shared almost equally. The men collect wood and attend to the fires, assist in cleaning the fish, make the houses, canoes, and wooden utensils; and, whenever strangers are to be entertained, or a great feast prepared, the meats are cooked and served up by them. The peculiar province of the female is to gather roots, and to manufacture the various articles which are formed of rushes, flags, cedar bark, and bear-grass; but the management of the canoes, and many of the occupations, which elsewhere devolve wholly on the female, are here common to both sexes.

"The observation in regard to the treatment of females applies with equal force to that of old men. Among tribes who subsist by hunting, the labours of the chase and the wandering existence to which

that occupation condemns them, necessarily throw the burden of procuring provisions on the active young men. As soon, therefore, as a man is no longer able to pursue the chase, he begins to withdraw something from the precarious supplies of the tribe. Still, however, his counsels may compensate his want of activity; but in the next stage of infirmity, when he can no longer travel from camp to camp, as the tribe roams about for food, he is found to be a heavy burden. In this situation the aged are abandoned among the Sioux, the Assiniboins, and the hunting tribes on the Missouri. As they are setting out for some new excursion, where the old man is unable to follow, his children or nearest connexions place before him a piece of meat and some water, and telling him that he has lived long enough, that it is now time for him to go home to his relations, who can take better care of him than his friends on earth, leave him, without remorse, to perish when his little supply is exhausted. The same custom is said to prevail among the Minnetarees, Ahnawahs, and Ricaras, when they are encumbered by old men on their hunting excursions. Yet in their villages we saw no want of kindness to the aged: on the contrary probably because in villages the means of more abundant subsistence renders such cruelty unnecessary, old people appeared to be treated with attention, and some of their feasts, particularly the buffalo dances, are intended chiefly for the entertainment of the aged and infirm.

"The dispositions of these people seem mild and inoffensive, and their behaviour to us was uniformly the most friendly. They are addicted to begging,

and to pilfering small articles when it can be done without danger of detection, but do not rob wantonly, nor to any large amount: some of them having purloined some of the meat which our hunters had been obliged to leave in the woods, they voluntarily brought some dogs a few days after, by way of compensation. Our numbers, and great superiority in the use of firearms, enabled us always to command: and such was the friendly deportment of these people, that the men were accustomed to treat them with the greatest confidence. It was therefore with difficulty that we could impress on our men a conviction of the necessity of always being on our guard, since we were perfectly acquainted with the treacherous character of Indians generally. We were always prepared for an attack, and uniformly excluded all considerable parties of the natives from the fort.

"Their large houses usually contain several families, consisting of the parents, their children, their sons and daughters-in-law, and grandchildren, among whom the provisions are all in common, and whose harmony is scarcely ever interrupted by disputes. Although polygamy is permitted by their customs, very few have more than a single wife; and she is brought immediately after the marriage into the husband's family, where she resides until increasing numbers oblige them to seek another house. In this state the old man is not considered as the head of the family, since the active duties, as well as principal responsibility, fall on some of the younger members. As these families gradually expand into bands, tribes, or nations, the paternal authority is represented by the chief of each association. This chieftain, however,

is not hereditary; his ability to be of service to his tribe, and the popularity which follows it, being at once the foundation and measure of his authority, the exercise of which does not extend beyond a reprimand for some improper action.

"The harmony of their private life is indeed secured by their ignorance of spirituous liquors, the earliest and most dreadful present which civilization has bestowed on the other natives of the Continent. Although they have had so much intercourse with the whites, they do not appear to possess any knowledge of those dangerous luxuries: at least, they never inquired of us after them, which they probably would have done if they had ever been introduced among them. Indeed, we did not observe any liquor of an intoxicating quality used among these or any Indians west of the Rocky Mountains, the universal beverage being pure water. They, however, sometimes almost intoxicate themselves with tobacco, of which they are excessively fond; and the pleasure of which they prolong as much as possible, by retaining vast quantities of the smoke at a time, till, after circulating through the lungs and stomach, it issues in volumes from the mouth and nostrils. But the most inveterate vice of all these people is an attachment to games of hazard, which they pursue with a strange and ruinous avidity. Their games are of two kinds. In the first, of which we have already given some account, one of the company assumes the office of banker, and plays against the rest. He takes a small stone, about the size of a bean, which he shifts from one hand to the other with great dexterity, repeating, at the same time, a song adapted to the game, and

which serves to divert the attention of the company, till, having agreed on the stake, he holds out his hands, and his antagonist wins or loses as he succeeds or fails in guessing in which hand the stone is. After the banker has lost his money, or whenever he is tired, the stone is transferred to another, who in turn challenges the company. The other play is something like that of ninepins: the two pins are placed on the floor, at about the distance of a foot from each other, and a small hole is made behind them. The players then go about ten feet from the hole, into which they try to roll, between the pins, a small piece resembling the men used at draughts. If they succeed in getting it into the hole, they win the stake; if the piece passes between the pins, but does not go into the hole, nothing is won or lost; but the wager is wholly lost if the piece rolls outside of the pins. Entire days are wasted at these games, which are often continued through the night round the blaze of their fires, till the last article of clothing, and even the last blue bead, is won from the desperate adventurer.

"In traffic they are acute and intelligent, displaying a dexterity and finesse that would scarcely be expected. They begin by asking double or treble its value for their merchandise, and lower their demands in proportion to the ardour or indifference of the purchaser: and if he expresses any anxiety, the smallest article, even a handful of roots, will furnish a whole morning's negotiation. Being naturally suspicious, they, of course, conceive that you are pursuing the same system. They therefore invariably refuse the first offer, however high, fearful that they or the

other party may have mistaken the value of the merchandise and cautiously wait for a larger offer. In this way, after rejecting the most extravagant prices, which we had offered merely for experiment, they would afterward importune us for the tenth part of what they had before refused. In this respect they differ from almost all Indians, who will generally exchange, in a thoughtless moment, the most valuable article they possess for any bawble which happens to please their fancy.

"These habits of cunning or prudence have been formed or increased by their being largely engaged in the traffic of the Columbia: of this trade, however, the chief mart is at the Falls, where all the neighbouring nations assemble. The inhabitants of the plains on the Columbia, after having passed the winter near the mountains, come down as soon as the snow has left the valleys, and are occupied in collecting and drying roots till about the month of May. They then crowd the river, and, fixing themselves on its north side, to avoid the incursions of the Snake Indians, continue fishing till about the first of September, when the salmon are no longer fit for use. Then they bury their fish, and return to the plains, where they remain gathering *quamash* till the snow obliges them to desist, when they come back to the Columbia, and, taking their store of fish, retire to the foot of the mountains and along the creeks which supply timber for their houses, and pass the winter in hunting deer or elk, which, with the aid of their fish, enables them to subsist till the spring, on the arrival of which they resume the same circle of employments. During their residence on the rivers, from May to

September, or, rather, before they begin the regular fishery, they go down to the Falls, carrying with them skins, mats, silk-grass, rushes, and root-bread. They are here met by the Chopunnish and other tribes of the Rocky Mountains, who descend the Kooskooskee and Lewis Rivers for the purpose of selling bear-grass, horses, *quamash*, and the few skins they may have obtained by hunting, or in exchange for horses with the Tushepaws.

"At the Falls they find the Chilluckittequaws, Eneeshurs, Echeloots, and Skilloots, which last serve as intermediate traders or carriers between the inhabitants above and below the Falls. These tribes prepare pounded fish for market, and the nations below bring *wappatoo* roots, the fish of the seacoast, berries, and such trinkets and small articles as they have procured from the whites.

"The trade then begins. The Chopunnish and other Indians of the Rocky Mountains exchange the articles which they have brought for *wappatoo*, pounded fish, and beads. The Indians of the plains, being their own fishermen, take only *wappatoo*, horses, beads, and other articles procured from the Europeans. The Indians, however, from Lewis's River to the Falls, consume for food or fuel all the fish which they take; so that the whole stock for sale is prepared by the nations between the Towahniahiooks and the Falls, and amounts, as nearly as we could estimate, to about thirty thousand pounds, chiefly salmon, beyond the quantity which they use themselves, or barter with the more eastern Indians. This is now carried down the river by the Indians at the Falls, and is consumed among the nations at the mouth of the Columbia,

who, in return, give the fish of the seacoast, and the articles which they obtain from the whites. The neighbouring tribes catch large quantities of salmon and dry them, but they do not understand the art of drying and pounding it in the manner practised at the Falls, and, being very fond of it, are forced to purchase it at high prices. This article, indeed, and the *wappatoo*, form the principal objects of trade with the people of our immediate vicinity. The traffic is wholly carried on by water; and there are not even any roads or paths through the country, except across the portages which connect the creeks.

"But that which chiefly gives animation to this trade is the visits of the whites. They arrive generally about the month of April, and either return in October, or remain till that time; during which period, having no establishment on shore, they anchor on the north side of the bay, at the place already described, which is a spacious and commodious harbour, perfectly secure from all except the south and southeast winds; and, as they leave it before winter, they do not suffer from these, which are the most usual and violent at that season. This situation is also recommended by its neighbourhood to fresh water, wood, and excellent timber for repairs. Here they are immediately visited by the tribes along the coast, by the Cathlamahs, and, lastly, by the Skilloots, that numerous and active people who skirt the river between the marshy islands and the Grand Rapids, as well as the Coweliskee, and who carry down the fish prepared by their immediate neighbours, the Chilluckittequaws, Eneeshurs, and Echeeloots, residing from the Grand Rapids to the Falls, and also the

articles which they have themselves procured in barter at the market in May. The principal articles of traffic now concentrated at the mouth of the Columbia consist of dressed and undressed skins of the elk, sea-otter, common otter, beaver, common fox, spuck, and tiger-cat; besides articles of less importance, as a small quantity of dried or pounded salmon, biscuit made of the *chappelell* root, and some of the manufactures of the neighbourhood. In return they receive guns (principally old British or American muskets), powder, ball and shot, copper and brass kettles, brass teaketties and coffee-pots, blankets, coarse scarlet and blue cloth, plates and strips of sheet copper and brass, large brass wire, knives, tobacco, fish-hooks, buttons, and a considerable quantity of sailor's hats, trowsers, coats and shirts. But, as we have had occasion to remark more than once, the objects most desired are the common cheap blue or white beads, of from fifty to seventy to the pennyweight, which are strung on strands a fathom long, and sold by the yard, or the length of both arms. Of these, blue beads, which are called *tia commashuck*, or chief beads, hold the first rank in their estimation; the most inferior kind being more highly prized than the finest wampum, and offering a temptation so strong as to induce them to part with their most valuable effects. Indeed, if the example of civilized life did not completely vindicate their predilection, we might wonder at their infatuated fondness for a bawble in itself so worthless. Yet these beads are perhaps quite as reasonable objects of passionate desire as the precious metals, since they are at once beautiful ornaments for the person, and furnish the chief medium of trade among the nations on the Columbia.

"These strangers who visit the Columbia for the purpose of trade or hunting, must be either English or Americans. The Indians informed us that they spoke the same language as we did; and, indeed, the few words which they have learned from the sailors, such as musket, powder, shot, knife file, heave the lead, and other phrases, sufficiently show this." * * *

"The nations near the mouth of the Columbia enjoy great tranquility, none of them being engaged in war. Not long since, however, some of the tribes were at war on the coast to the southwest, in which the Killamucks took several prisoners. These, as far as we could perceive, were treated very kindly, and, though nominally slaves, they had been adopted into the families of their masters, the young ones being placed on the same footing with their children.

"The month of February and the greater part of March were passed much in the same manner. Every day, parties as large as we could spare from our other occupations were sent out to hunt, and we were thus enabled to command some day's provision in advance. This consisted chiefly of deer and elk meat: the first was very lean, and by no means as good as that of the elk, which, though it had been poor, was getting better: it was, indeed, our chief dependence. At this season of the year the animals are in much better order in the prairies near the point, where they feed on grass and rushes, considerable quantities of which remain green, than in the woody country up the Netul. There they subsist on whortleberry bushes and fern, but chiefly on an evergreen called *shallun*, resembling the laurel, which abounds through all the timbered lands, particularly along the

broken sides of hills. Towards the latter end of February, however, they left the prairies near Point Adams, and retired back to the hills; but, fortunately, at the same time the sturgeon and anchovies began to appear, and afforded us a delicious variety of food. The party on the seacoast continued to supply us with salt." * * *

"The neighbouring tribes still visited us for the purpose of trading, or to smoke with us. On the 21st, a Chinnook chief, whom we had not before seen, came over with twenty-five of his men. His name was Taheum: a man about fifty years of age, of a larger stature and better carriage than most of his nation. We received him with the usual ceremonies, gave the party something to eat, smoked very freely with them all, and presented the chief with a small medal. They seemed well satisfied with their treatment; but, though we were willing to show the chief every civility, we could not dispense with our rule of not suffering a large number of strangers to sleep in the fort. They therefore left us at sunset. On the 24th, Comowool, who was by far the most friendly and decent savage we had seen in this neighbourhood, came with a large party of Clatsops, bringing, among other articles, sturgeon, and a small fish which had just begun to make its appearance in the Columbia."

As the elk were now less plentiful, they subsisted on fish whenever they could take them, or their limited means would procure them from the Indians. There were a considerable number of invalids in the party, the principal complaint being a sort of influenza, which they ascribed to the nature of the climate.

CHAPTER VIII.

Difficulty of procuring the Means of Subsistence.—They determine to start on their Journey to the Mountains.—They leave with the Indians a written Memorandum, giving an Account of their having penetrated to the Pacific by the way of the Missouri and Columbia, and across the Rocky Mountains.—The Party commence their Return.—Dexterity of the Cathlamah Indians in Carving.—The Coweliskee River.—Hospitality of the Natives.—Instance of the extreme Voracity of the Vulture.—The Party are visited by many strange Indians, all of whom are kind and hospitable.—Scarcity of Game, and Embarrassments on that Account.—Captain Clarke discovers a Tribe not seen in the Descent down the Columbia.—Particular Description of the Multnomah Village and River.—Mount Jefferson.—Captain Clarke's Account of the Neerchokio Tribe, and of their Architecture.—Their Sufferings from Smallpox.

"MANY reasons," continues the Journal, "had determined us to remain at Fort Clatsop till the 1st of April. Besides the want of fuel in the plains on the Columbia, and the impracticability of passing the mountains before the beginning of June, we were anxious to see some of the foreign traders, from whom, by means of our ample letters of credit, we might recruit our exhausted stores of merchandise. About the middle of March, however, we became seriously alarmed for the want of food: the elk, our chief dependence, had at length deserted their usual haunts in our neighbourhood, and retreated to the mountains. We were too poor

to purchase other food from the Indians, so that we were sometimes reduced, notwithstanding all the exertions of our hunters, to a single day's provisions in advance. The men, too, whom the constant rains and confinement had rendered unhealthy, might, we hoped, be benefitted by quitting the coast, and resuming the exercise of travelling. We determined, therefore, to leave Fort Clatsop, ascend the river slowly, spend the remainder of March in the woody country, where we hoped to find subsistence, and in this way reach the plains about the first of April, before which time it would be fruitless to attempt crossing them; and for this purpose we now began our preparations.

"During the winter we had been very industrious in dressing skins, so that we had now a sufficient quantity of clothing, besides between three and four hundred pairs of moccasins. But the whole stock of goods on which we were to depend, both for the purchase of horses and food, during the long tour of nearly four thousand miles, was so much diminished that it might all be tied in two handkerchiefs. We had, in fact, nothing but six blue robes, one of scarlet, a coat and a hat of the United States artillery uniform, five robes made of our large flag, and a few old clothes trimmed with riband. We therefore felt that our chief subsistence must be on our guns, which, fortunately, were all in good order, as we had taken the precaution of bringing a number of extra locks, and one of our men proved to be an excellent artist in that way. The powder had been secured in leaden canisters, and though on many occasions they had been under water, it had remained perfectly

dry, and we now found ourselves in the possession of one hundred and forty pounds of powder, and twice that weight of lead, a stock quite sufficient for the route homeward.

"After much trafficking, we at least succeeded in purchasing a canoe for a uniform coat and a half a carrot of tobacco, and took another from the Clatsops, by way of reprisal for some elk which they had stolen from us in the winter. We were now ready to leave, but the rain prevented us for several days from caulking the canoes, and we were forced to wait for calm weather before we could attempt to pass Point William. In the mean time we were visited by many of our neighbours, for the purpose of taking leave of us. The Clatsop Comowool had been the most friendly and hospitable of all the Indians in this quarter: we therefore gave him a certificate of the kindness and attention which we had received from him, and added a more substantial proof of our gratitude — the gift of all our houses and furniture. To the Chinnook chief Delashelwilt we gave a certificate of the same kind; and distributed among the natives several papers (one of which we also posted up in the fort), to the following effect:

"The object of this is, that through the medium of some civilized person who may see the same, it may be made known to the world that the party, consisting of the persons whose names are hereunto annexed, and who were sent out by the government of the United States to explore the interior of the continent of North America, did cross the same by the way of the Missouri and Columbia Rivers, to the discharge of the latter into the Pacific Ocean, where

they arrived on the 14th day of November, 1805, and departed the 23d day of March, 1806, on their return to the United States, by the same route by which they had come out.' On the back of some of these papers we sketched the connexion of the upper branches of the Missouri and Columbia Rivers, with our route, and the track which we intended to follow on our return." * * *

"The rains and wind still confined us to the fort; but at last our provisions were reduced to a single day's stock, and it became absolutely necessary to remove: we therefore sent a few hunters ahead, and stopped the rents in the boats as well as we could with mud."

"March 23. The canoes were loaded, and at one o'clock in the afternoon we took final leave of Fort Clatsop. The wind was still high, but we must have remained without provisions, and we hoped to be able to double Point William. We had scarcely left the fort, when we met Delashelwilt and a party of twenty Chinnooks, who, understanding that we had been trying to procure a canoe, had brought one for sale. Being, however, already supplied, we left them, and, after getting out of Meriwether's Bay, began to coast along the south side of the river. We doubled Point William without any accident, and at six o'clock reached, at the distance of sixteen miles from Fort Clatsop, the mouth of a small creek, where we found our hunters ." * * *

Starting immediately after breakfast the next morning, at one o'clock they reached the Cathlamah village, opposite to the Seal Islands, and which has been already mentioned. "These people," says the

Journal, "seem to be more fond of carving in wood than their neighbours, and have various specimens of their workmanship about their houses. The broad piece supporting the roof and the board through which the doors are cut are the objects on which they chiefly display their ingenuity, being ornamented with curious figures, sometimes representing persons in a sitting posture supporting a burden. On resuming our route among the Seal Islands we mistook our way, which an Indian observing, he pursued us and put us in the right channel. Soon, however, he somewhat embarrassed us by claiming the canoe we had taken from the Clatsops, and which he declared to be his property. We had found it among the Clatsops, and seized it, as has been already stated, by way of reprisal for a theft committed by that nation; but, being unwilling to do an act of injustice to this Indian, and having no time to discuss the question of right, we compromised the matter with him for an elkskin, with which he returned perfectly satisfied." * * * After making a distance of fifteen miles they encamped opposite to the lower village of the Wahkiacums.

The two following days they ascended the river about thirty-three miles, meeting with different parties of the Clatsops and Cathlamahs, from whom they obtained a small supply of fish, while their hunters succeeded in killing a goose and three eagles.

"March 27. We set out early," continues the Journal, "and were soon joined by some Skilloots with fish and roots for sale. At ten o'clock we stopped to breakfast at two houses of the same nation, where we found our hunters, who had not returned to camp

last night, but had killed nothing. The inhabitants seemed very kind and hospitable. They gave almost the whole party as much as they could eat of dried anchovies, *wappatoo*, sturgeon, *quamash*, and a small white tuberous root, two inches long, and as thick as a man's finger, which, when eaten raw, is crisp, milky, and of an agreeable flavour. They also urged us to remain with them all the day, and hunt elk and deer, which they said were abundant in the neighbourhood; but, as the weather would not permit us to dry and pitch our canoes, we declined their invitation, and proceeded. At the distance of two miles we passed the entrance of Coweliskee River. This stream discharges itself on the north side of the Columbia, about three miles above a remarkably high rocky knoll, the south side of which it washes in passing, and which is separated from the northern hills by a wide bottom several miles in extent. The Coweliskee is one hundred and fifty yards wide, deep and navigable, as the Indians assert, for a considerable distance, and most probably waters the country west and north of the range of mountains which cross the Columbia between the Great Falls and Rapids. On the lower side of this river, a few miles from its entrance into the Columbia, is the principal village of the Skilloots, a numerous people, differing, however, neither in language, dress, nor manners from the Clatsops, Chinnooks, and other nations at the mouth of the Columbia. With the Chinnooks they have lately been at war, and, though hostilities have ceased, they have not yet resumed their usual intercourse, so that the Skilloots do not go down as far as the sea, nor do the Chinnooks come up higher than the Seal Islands, the trade between them being

carried on by the Clatsops, Cathlamahs, and Wahkiacums, their mutual friends. On this same river, above the Skilloots, resides a nation called Hullooetell, of whom we learned nothing except that they were very numerous." * * * They halted late in the evening, after making twenty miles, having been enabled to purchase of the natives a plentiful supply of fish and roots at a moderate price.

The next day they set out as usual, but after proceeding five miles they landed on Deer Island, where the weather becoming fair, they concluded to remain, for the purpose of drying their baggage and pitching their boats. "Our hunters," proceeds the Journal, "brought in three deer, a goose, some ducks, an eagle, and a tiger-cat; but such is the extreme voracity of the vultures, that they had devoured in the space of a few hours four of the deer killed in the morning; and one of our men declared that they had, besides, dragged a large buck about thirty yards, skinned it, and broke the back-bone. We were visited during the day by a large canoe with ten Indians of the Quathlapotle nation, who reside about seventeen miles farther up.

"March 29. At an early hour we proceeded along the side of Deer Island, and halted for breakfast at the upper end of it, where is properly the commencement of the great Columbian Valley. We were joined here by three men of the Towahnahiook nation, with whom we proceeded, till at the distance of fourteen miles from our camp of last evening we reached a large inlet or arm of the river, about three hundred yards wide, up which they went to their villages. A short distance above this inlet, a considerable river empties itself on the north side of the Columbia; its

name is Chawahnahiooks. It is about one hundred and fifty yards wide, and discharges a large body of water, though the Indians assured us that at a short distance above its mouth the navigation is obstructed by falls and rapids. Three miles beyond the inlet is an island near the north shore of the river, behind the lower end of which was a village of Quathlapotles, where we landed about three o'clock. This village consisted of fourteen large wooden houses. The people received us very kindly, and voluntarily spread before us anchovies and *wappatoo*; but, as soon as we had finished enjoying their hospitality, if it deserves that name, they began to ask for presents. They were, however, perfectly satisfied with the trifling articles which we distributed among them, and equally pleased with our purchasing some *wappatoo*, twelve dogs, and two sea-otter skins. We also gave to the chief a small medal, which he soon transferred to his wife. After remaining some time we embarked, and, coasting along this island, which, after the nation, we called Quathlapotle Island, encamped for the night in a small prairie on the north side of the Columbia, having made by estimate nineteen miles. The river was rising fast. In the course of the day we saw great numbers of geese, ducks, and large and small swans, which last were very abundant in the ponds where the *wappatoo* grew, as they feed much on that root. We also observed the crested kingfisher, and the large and small blackbird; and in the evening heard, without seeing, the large hoot-owl. Frogs, which we did not find in the wet marshes, near the entrance of the Columbia, were now croaking in the swamps and marshes with precisely the same note as in the United

States. Garter-snakes appeared in vast numbers, and were seen in the prairies in bundles of forty or fifty entwined round each other. Among the moss on the rocks we observed a species of small wild onions, growing so closely together as to form a perfect turf, and equal in flavour to the chives of our gardens, which they resemble in appearance also.

"March 30. Soon after our departure we were met by three Clanaminanums, one of whom we recognized as our companion yesterday. He pressed us very much to visit his countrymen on the inlet, but we had no time to make the circuit, and parted. We had not proceeded far before a party of Claxtars and Cathlacumups passed us in two canoes, on their way down the river; and soon after we were met by several other canoes, filled with Indians of different tribes on each side of the river. We also passed several fishing camps on Wappatoo Island, and then halted for breakfast on the north side of the river, near our camp of the 4th of November. Here we were visited by several canoes from two villages on Wappatoo Island: the first, about two miles farther up, was called Clahnaquah; the other, a mile above it, Multonomah. After higgling much in the manner of those on the seacoast, these Indians gave us a sturgeon, with some *wappatoo* and *pashequaw*, in exchange for a few small fish-hooks. As we proceeded we were joined by other Indians, and on coming opposite to the Clahnaquah village, we were shown another village, about two miles from the river on the north-east side, and behind a pond running parallel with it. Here they said the tribe called Shotos resided. About four o'clock the Indians all left us. Their chief ob-

ject in accompanying us appeared to have been to gratify their curiosity; but, though they behaved in the most friendly manner, most of them were furnished with their instruments of war. About sunset we reached a beautiful prairie, opposite to the middle of what we had called Image-Canoe Island: and, having made twenty-three miles, encamped for the night." * * *

The next day they proceeded twenty-five miles, passing a considerable stream from the north, which they called Seal River, and encamped opposite to the upper entrance of Quicksand River. The latter stream they ascertained, from the accounts of the Indians and by their own examination, to be much less extensive than they had supposed in passing it on their way down. They remained here till the 6th of April, for the purpose of collecting a stock of provisions. Several parties of Indians were met descending the river in quest of food. "They told us," says the Journal, "that they lived at the Great Rapids; but that the scarcity of provisions there had induced them to come down, in the hopes of finding subsistence in the more fertile valley. All the people living at the Rapids, as well as the nations above them, were in much distress for want of food, having consumed their winter store of dried fish, and not expecting the return of the salmon before the next full moon, which would be on the 2d of May: this information was not a little embarrassing. From the Falls to the Chopunnish nation, the plains afforded neither deer, elk, nor antelope for our subsistence. The horses were very poor at this season, and the dogs must be in the same condition, if their food, the dried fish, had failed. Still, it

was obviously inexpedient for us to wait for the return of the salmon, since in that case we might not reach the Missouri before the ice would prevent our navigating it. We might, besides, hazard the loss of our horses, as Chopunnish, with whom we had left them, would cross the mountains as early as possible, or about the beginning of May, and take our horses with them, or suffer them to disperse, in either of which cases the passage of the mountains will be almost impracticable. We therefore, after much deliberation, decided to remain where we were till we could collect meat enough to last us till we should reach the Chopunnish nation, and to obtain canoes from the natives as we ascended, either in exchange for our pirogues, or by purchasing them with skins and merchandise. These canoes, again, we might exchange for horses with the natives of the plains, till we should obtain enough to travel altogether by land. On reaching the southeast branch of the Columbia, four or five men could be sent on to the Chopunnish to have our horses in readiness: and thus we should have a stock of horses sufficient both to transport our baggage and supply us with food, as we now perceived that they would form our only certain dependance for subsistence.

"The hunters returned from the opposite side of the river with some deer and elk, which were abundant there, as were also the tracks of the black-bear, while on the north side we could kill nothing.

"In the course of the dealings to-day we purchased a canoe from an Indian for six fathoms of wampum beads. He seemed perfectly satisfied, and went away; but returned soon after, cancelled the

bargain, and, giving back the wampum, requested us to restore the canoe. To this we consented, as we knew that this method of trading was very common, and deemed perfectly fair.

"April 2. Being now determined to collect as much game as possible, two parties, consisting of nine men, were sent over the river to hunt, and three were ordered to range the country on the side where we were, while the rest were employed in cutting up and scaffolding the meat which had been already brought in. About eight o'clock several canoes arrived with visiters, and among the rest were two young men who were pointed out as Cushooks. They said that their nation resided at the falls of a large river, which empties itself into the south side of the Columbia a few miles above us; and they drew a map of the country with a coal, on a mat. In order to satisfy himself as to the truth of this information, Captain Clarke persuaded one of the young Cushooks, by present of a burning-glass, to accompany him to the river, in search of which he immediately set out with a canoe and seven of our men. After his departure other canoes arrived, bringing families of women and children, who confirmed the accounts of scarcity above. One of these families, consisting of ten or twelve persons, encamped near us, and behaved perfectly well. The hunters on our side of the river returned with the skins of only two deer, the animals themselves being too lean for use.

"April 3. A considerable number of Indians crowded about us to-day, many of them from the upper part of the river. These poor wretches gave a dismal account of the scarcity prevailing there;

which, indeed, their appearance sufficiently proved, for they seemed almost starved, and greedily picked the bones and refuse meat thrown away by us.

"In the evening Captain Clarke returned from his excursion. On setting out yesterday at half past eleven o'clock, he directed his course along the south side of the river, where, at the distance of eight miles, he passed the village of the Nechacohee tribe, belonging to the Eloot nation. The village itself was small, and, being situated behind Diamond Island, was concealed from our view, as we had passed both times along the northern shore. He proceeded onward till three o'clock, when he landed near a single house, the only remains of a village of twenty-four straw huts. Along the northern shore were great numbers of small canoes for receiving *wappatoo*, having been left here by the Shahalas, who visit the place annually. The present inmates of the house were part of the Neerchokioo tribe of the same nation. On entering one of the apartments of the house Captain Clarke offered several articles to the Indians in exchange for *wappatoo*; but they appeared sullen and ill humoured, and refused to give him any. He therefore sat down by the fire opposite to the men, and, drawing a port-fire match from his pocket, threw a small piece of it into the flames; at the same time he took out his pocket compass, and by means of a magnet which happened to be in his ink-horn, made the needle turn round very briskly. The match immediately took fire and burned violently, on which the Indians, terrified at this strange exhibition, brought a quantity of *wappatoo* and laid it at his feet, begging him to put out the bad fire; while an old woman continued to

speak with great vehemence, as if praying, and imploring protection. After receiving the roots, Captain Clarke put up the compass, and, as the match went out itself, tranquillity was restored, though the women and children still sought refuge in their beds and behind the men. He now paid them for what he had used, and, after lighting his pipe and smoking with them, continued down the river. He found that what we had called Image-Canoe Island consisted of three islands the one in the middle concealing the opening between the other two in such a manner as to present to us on the opposite side of the river the appearance of a single island. At the lower point of the third, and thirteen miles below the last village, he entered the mouth of a large river, which was concealed by three small islands at its mouth from those who descend or ascend the Columbia. This river, which the Indians call Multnomah, from the nation of the same name residing near it on Wappatoo Island, enters the Columbia one hundred and forty miles from the mouth of the latter river, of which it may justly be considered as forming one fourth, though it had now fallen eighteen inches below its greatest annual height. From the entrance Mount Regnier bears nearly north, and Mount St. Helen north, with a very high humped mountain a little to the east of it, which seems to lie in the same chain with the conic-pointed mountains before mentioned. Mount Hood bore due east, and Captain Clarke now discovered to the southeast a mountain which we had not yet seen, and to which he gave the name of Mount Jefferson. Like Mount St. Helen, its figure is a regular cone, covered with snow, and it is pro-

bably of equal height with that mountain, though, being more distant, so large a portion of it did not appear above the range of mountains which lie between these and the point where they were. Soon after entering the Multnomah he was met by an old Indian descending the river alone in a canoe. After some conversation with him, the pilot informed Captain Clarke that this old man belonged to the Clackamos nation, who reside on a river forty miles up the Multnomah. The current of this latter river is as gentle as that of the Columbia, its surface is smooth and even, and it appears to possess water enough for the largest ship, since, on sounding with a line of five fathoms, he could find no bottom for at least one third of the width of the stream. At the distance of seven miles he passed a sluice or opening on the right, eighty yards wide, which separates Wappatoo Island from the continent by emptying itself into the inlet below. Three miles farther up he reached a large wooden house on the east side, where he intended to sleep; but on entering the rooms he found such swarms of fleas, that he preferred lying on the ground near by. The guide informed him that this house was the temporary residence of the Nemalquinner tribe of the Cushook nation, who reside just below the falls of the Multnomah, but come down here occasionally to collect *wappatoo:* it was thirty feet long and forty deep, built of broad boards, and covered with the bark of white cedar, the floor being on a level with the surface of the earth, and the arrangement of the interior like that of the houses near the seacoast. The former inhabitants had left their canoes, mats, bladders, train oil, baskets, bowls, and

trenchers lying about the house at the mercy of every visitor; a proof, indeed, of their respect for the property of each other, though we had had very conclusive evidence that the property of the white men was not deemed equally sacred. The guide informed him farther, that at a small distance above there were two *bayous*, on which were a number of small houses belonging to the Cushooks, but that they had then all gone up to the falls of the Multnomah for the purpose of fishing.

"Early the next morning Captain Clarke proceeded up the river, which during the night had fallen about five inches. At the distance of two miles he came to the centre of a bend under the high lands on the right side, from which its course, as far as could be discerned, was to the east of southeast. At this place the Multnomah is five hundred yards wide, and for half that distance across a cord of five fathoms would not reach the bottom. It appears to be washing away its banks, and has more sand-bars and willow-points than the Columbia. Its regular gentle current, the depth, smoothness, and uniformity with which it rolls its vast body of water, proves that its supplies are at once distant and steady; nor judging from its appearance and course, is it rash to believe that the Multnomah and its tributary streams water the vast extent of country between the western mountains and those of the seacoast, as far, perhaps, as the Gulf of California. At about eleven o'clock he again reached the house of the Neerchokioos, in which he now found eight families; but they were all so much alarmed at his presence, notwithstanding his visit yesterday, that he remained a very few minutes only.

Soon after setting out he met five canoes, filled with the same number of families, belonging to the Shahala nation. They were descending the river in search of food, and seemed very desirous of coming alongside the boat; but, as there were twenty-one of them, and the guide said that these Shahalas, as well as their relations at the house we had just left, were all mischievous, bad men, they were not suffered to approach.

"At three o'clock he halted for an hour at the Nechecolee house, where his guide resided. This large building was two hundred and twenty-six feet in front, entirely above ground, and might be considered as a single house, since the whole was under one roof: otherwise it appeared more like a range of buildings, as it was divided into seven distinct apartments, each thirty feet square, by means of broad poles set on end, and reaching from the floor to the roof. The apartments were separated from each other by a passage or alley four feet wide, extending through the whole depth of the house, and the only entrance to them was from these alleys, through a small hole about twenty-two inches wide, and not more than three feet high. The roof was formed of rafters and round poles laid on them longitudinally; the whole being covered with a double row of the bark of the white cedar, extending from the top eighteen inches over the eaves, and secured as well as kept smooth by splinters of dried fir inserted through it at regular distances, In this manner the roof was made light, strong, and durable. Near this house were the remains of several other large buildings, sunk in the ground, and constructed like

those we had seen at the Great Narrows of the Columbia, belonging to the Eloots, with whom these people claim affinity. In manners and dress these Nechecolees differ but little from the Quathlapotles, and others of this neighbourhood; but their language is the same used by the Eloots, and though it has some words in common with the dialects spoken here, yet its whole structure is obviously different. The men, too, are of a larger stature, and both sexes better formed than among the nations below; and the females are distinguished by wearing larger and longer robes (which are generally of deerskin dressed in the hair) than those of the neighbouring tribes. In the house there were several old people of both sexes, who were treated with much respect, and still seemed healthy, though most of them were perfectly blind. On inquiring the cause of the decline of their village, an old man, the father of the guide, and a person of some distinction, brought forward a woman very much pitted with the smallpox, and said that, when a girl, she was very near dying with the disorder which had left those marks, and that all the inhabitants of the houses now in ruins had fallen victims to the same disease. From the apparent age of the woman then, connected with what it was at the time of her illness, Captain Clarke judged that this sickness must have been about thirty years before, or about the period we had supposed that the smallpox probably prevailed on the seacoast.

"He then entered into a long conversation in regard to the adjacent country and its inhabitants, the old man replying to his questions with great intelligence; and at the close he drew with his finger in

the dust a sketch of the Multnomah, and of Wappatoo Island. This Captain Clarke copied and preserved. He then purchased five dogs, and, taking leave of the Nechecolee village, returned to camp.

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